PICK UP YOUR FREE

Kent on Sunday

www.kentnews.co.uk January 27, 2013 MID KENT EDITION Issue no 540

Chilling fact is every two hours an old person dies from the cold

Exclusive by Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

ONE elderly person in Kent is dying every two hours during the winter months – as a direct result of the cold.

It means over the course of the three winter months – December, January and February – around 1,000 people will have their death attributed to not being warm enough.

And with fuel costs rocketing, it is feared the situation shows little sign of easing.

The shocking statistic was revealed by the Kent Community Foundation (KCF), based on government figures.

It was released following the coldest week of the year so far, with temperatures plunging as low as -8C at night and struggling to get above zero C during the day.

Carol Lynch, chief executive of the KCF – an independent charitable foundation helping to raise money for local causes – called this colder period "the danger time".

She said: "When temperatures have plummeted, and due to changes in their physiology, the elderly – particularly those over 75 – are at risk due to the extreme cold."

And worryingly, chief executive of Age UK in Maidstone, Paul Coles, said in parts of Kent many elderly people are "capital rich, but cash poor" meaning they can't afford expensive heating bills.

He explained: "They turn their heating off to try and save money which is one of the problems.

"Kent has quite extreme weather compared to other parts of the country and it does tend to snow in winter.

"If an elderly person can't get out, they become isolated. If they have a fall,

Continued on page 2

BATTLING TRAUMA

SUPPORT: NHS to invest in mental health care for former soldiers – **SEE INSIDE**

ENVIRONMENT

Take part in big birdwatch

THE RSPB is hoping tens of thousands of people across the county will take part in its annual survey to monitor the number and variety of birds in our gardens this weekend.

The Big Garden Birdwatch is the world's biggest wildlife survey. Find out how to take part inside. **PAGE 3**

LITERATURE

From 'geek' to superheroes

A BEST-selling author, who has also penned comic strip adventures for superheroes such as Superman, Batman, Iron Man and X Men, is hoping to prove a hit with his first novel designed for children.

We talk to the multi-million selling Dan Abnett inside about his growing fame. **PAGE 23**

CRIME

Fresh leads in hunt for killer

AN EMOTIONAL memorial walk to mark 20 years since the brutal death of teenager Claire Tiltman sparked a number of calls to police.

The 16-year-old was stabbed as she walked to a friends house in 1993. Her killer has never been found. Full details inside. **PAGE 21**

FIXED PRICE SERVICING OFFERS
GOLD SERVICE from £169.99
SILVER SERVICE from £139.99
BRONZE SERVICE from £69.99
ASK ABOUT OUR FREE MOT OFFER
CALL Trinity on 01795 599877 or Bapchild on 598309 to book now
MotorMarket Service Centre a brand of pomphreys
Terms and conditions apply
Tribune Drive • Trinity Trading Estate • Sittingbourne •London Road • Bapchild • Sittingbourne

News

Download your FREE **Kent News iPhone** and **iPad App**

INSIDE

- News. **2-23**
- Comment/Feedback **24-25**
- Kent Remembered **26**

INSIDE

Studying stand-up? Really, it's not a joke! SEE PAGE 37

NAME GAME Adam takes to the streets for Mini challenge SEE PAGE 51

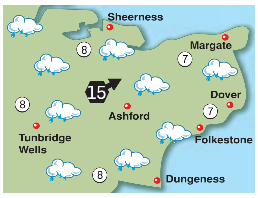
Kent Weekend

- Interview **29**
- Food and Drink. **33**

LEISURE
Attractions, events, stage, exhibitions, theatre, arts, ...**30, 34-36**

- Business **38-39**
- Training and careers. . . . **40**
- Property. **44**
- Driving **45-53**
- Jobs & Notices. **54-61**
- Sport. **62-63**

Weather



TODAY: Showers will clear by the evening. Moderate south-westerly winds. Max temp 7-10C (45-50F). **TONIGHT:** Dry and clear. Showers by dawn. Min temp 1-4C

TODAY'S HIGH TIDE (Metres)

Dover	11.09	6.3	23.31	6.5
Margate	–	–	12.11	4.5
St Mary's	04.48	5.4	17.06	5.3

WEEK AHEAD

Monday	Max 10C	Min 5C
Tuesday	Max 12C	Min 8C
Wednesday	Max 12C	Min 6C
Thursday	Max 10C	Min 7C
Friday	Max 9C	Min 3C
Saturday	Max 11C	Min 5C

Information supplied by MeteoGroup

ARCHANT KOS MEDIA

CONTACTS
Publisher: Simon Irwin
Email simon.irwin@archant.co.uk
Editor: Chris Britcher
Email chris.britcher@archant.co.uk
Address: Apple Barn, Smeeth, TN25 6SS
Editorial: News: 01303 817100
Leisure: 01303 817022
Sport: 01303 817177
Email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk
Advertising: Jobs/Notices: 01303 817056
Business: 01303 817056
Email appointments@kosmedia.co.uk
Retail/Leisure/Motors: 01303 817150
Email sales@kosmedia.co.uk
Distribution: 01303 817072

FOLLOW US ONLINE @
yourkenttv.co.uk • kentnews.co.uk
kentnews.co.uk/mobile
jobsforkent.co.uk • homes24.co.uk
carsforkent.co.uk • twitter@kosmedia

Published in Kent by Archant Community Media Ltd (Co Reg No 19300), Registered Office: Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE and printed by St Clements Press (1988) Ltd (Co Reg No 2174119), Unit 3, International Business Park, Rick Roberts Way, Stratford, London, E15 2NF

CARE

As thousands die from the cold more needs to be done to protect the vulnerable elderly

Continued from front page

they may lie there in their house, unable to move through the night when it gets colder.

"If people notice an elderly neighbour hasn't been bringing their milk in or the post hasn't been collected, please check on them. Or check in on them anyway when it's cold."

The number of deaths traditionally rises over the winter months, but the latest statistic will come as a surprise to many in our modern society.

Mr Coles added: "It's like Christmas is a target and once that is over they give in.

"We urge elderly people to keep their heating on – even if they just heat the room they're in – but I also understand that fuel poverty is a real problem."

A public health report stated that for every degree Celsius that the outdoor temperature falls below the winter average, there are 8,000 extra winter deaths in England; equating to around 240 in Kent.

Kent director of public health, Meradin Peachey, said older people with underlying circulatory or respiratory disease have the greatest risk of being affected by the cold.

"Tackling excess winter deaths should involve a three-stage process that includes preparation, identification of vulnerable people and interventions."

Coling Thompson is public health specialist for NHS Kent and Medway.

He said: "There are actions that people can take to minimise the risks of cold weather. These include making sure the temperature of their home is kept between 18C and 21C, stocking up on basic food items and medicines to minimise the need to go outside when it is cold, and ensuring that they wear warm winter clothing including a hat, scarf and warm coat if they do have to go outdoors."

The number of deaths has prompted KCF, and over-50s provider Saga, to call on communities to consider the vulnerable elderly people in the colder months.

They are also asking more well-off households who receive the Government's winter fuel allowance to donate it to needy people through KCF's Surviving Winter campaign – which this newspaper supports.

Every household with residents over the age of 60 receives the fund every winter, regardless of their financial position.

By donating the money – which is as much as £200 – to KCF, the charity can then redirect it to cash-strapped households to help towards bills, as well as outreach services which stop elderly people becoming isolated.

Ms Lynch said: "The Government's Warm Homes Healthy People Fund has offered to match the money we raise from public donations to the Surviving Winter Fund, but we are in need of more generous donors in order to be able to make the most of this generous match."

■ **Visit http://www.kentcf.org.uk/surviving_winter.html to donate to the appeal.**

EDUCATION

Tables put schools alongside the country's finest for GCSEs

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

KENT and Medway schools are topping the list of the best in the country, according to GCSE league tables.

They show official results from last August highlighting the top, middle and lowest performing schools.

Rochester Grammar School came second nationally after every single one of its pupils gained five A*-C grades, including maths and English.

Invicta Grammar School in Maidstone was also celebrating, having scooped eighth place, and Folkestone School for Girls was close behind, at 14th. Tonbridge Grammar School, Chatham Grammar School for Boys and Benenden School also featured highly.

But while some were celebrating, others found themselves at the bottom of the league tables.

The Marlowe Academy in Ramsgate, while improved since last year, was at 10th in the lowest performing schools, with just 20 per cent of its pupils achieving the benchmark five GCSEs at A*-C including English and maths.

Swan Valley Community School in Swanscombe was also in the lower tables, with 24 per cent.

Cabinet member for education at Kent County Council, Mike Whiting, admitted some schools were not improving as fast as others but work was under way for both academies and maintained schools to ensure results got better.

He said he was delighted, however, with the results of some schools.

"Kent is improving faster than the national average," he said. "It's a reflection of the hard work, not least of the pupils, but also of headteachers, teachers and staff of the county's schools."

He added: "Even in the face of the English GCSE debacle, Kent schools could hold their heads high with their results.

"It was distressing to see headteachers and children in tears when I went round the schools because of the English GCSE problem. I'm hopeful they've moved on from that and progressed in the way they planned."

It emerged after last summer's results that grade boundaries in GCSE English had been raised significantly for pupils sitting assessments in June compared with those sitting early entries in January and March.

Figures showed that pass-rate grade boundaries had been raised by as much as 10 per cent. This resulted in a quarter of schools in the country seeing the number of pupils awarded A*-C in GCSE English drop by five per cent on 2011.

Two exam boards came under fire and it was decided that pupils could retake the exam following the scandal.

PLEASED: Cllr Mike Whiting has praised the schools for their excellent results

Medway Council was also celebrating good league table positions.

A spokesman said: "We congratulate the pupils and teachers at the two secondary schools in Medway listed that are under local authority control as their results have, yet again, improved from the previous year. These are St John Fisher and The Howard School.

"The tables show results for 21 secondary schools across Medway and 19 of these are either academies or schools that are independent from the council.

"However, we would like to say well done to all the pupils, as well as their teachers, for the hard work they have put in to achieve their results."

GARAGE DOORS
CRAZY SALE MADNESS

Top of the range **'remote controlled'** insulated aluminium rolling garage door, superb product maintenance free.

Totally secure and fully guaranteed.

RRP £2,155.00

NOW JUST £699

INC VAT & FITTED FREE!!*

This special offer includes free fitting.
The offer on our website does not include free fitting.
To benefit from this offer you should call: 01622 765993 Quote Ref K.O.S

TO SEE THIS **'SEGURO'** DOOR WITHOUT ANY OBLIGATION

TEL: 01622 765993

MAIDSTONE • CANTERBURY
CROYDON • COLCHESTER

www.segurogaragedoors.co.uk

bringing you the latest news ■ sport ■ video ■ jobs ■ cars and property ...Just visit the Apple App Store

WILDLIFE

Make your garden count in birdwatch

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

TENS of thousands of people across the county are set to take part in one of the biggest surveys of our local bird populations this weekend.

The RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch runs across Saturday and Sunday and hopes to provide a snap shot of the health of many of our most familiar feathered friends.

Last year, more than 20,000 people in Kent took part, with close to 600,000 joining in the nationwide event from across the UK.

And it is hoped that after the recent cold snap, there could be a bumper number of birds to spot as they seek food in back gardens.

Taking part requires the monitoring of your garden for just one hour at any time over the weekend, and involves simply counting the number of each different species.

More than nine million birds across the UK were counted last year, in what is believed to be the biggest wildlife survey in the world.

Last year the house sparrow was the most common bird to be spotted in Kent, followed by the starling and the blue tit (see table).

Samantha Stokes, spokesperson for the RSPB in the south east, said; "No matter where people take part, whether at home with the family, with classmates at school or with friends in the beer garden of the local pub, we're joining forces to gather vital information about some of our most familiar garden birds.

"It's a great way to get to know the creatures that live around us, and that's especially important for children.

"Feeding garden birds can often be a child's first encounter with wildlife and can spark a lifelong interest in nature."

Following on from this weekend will be the Big Schools' Birdwatch, which runs all of next week.

Now in its 34th year, the birdwatch has helped to highlight some dramatic declines in UK garden birds.

In the first survey in 1979, an average of 15 starlings were seen per garden, but that fell to an average of just three in 2012, the lowest level ever. House sparrow numbers have fallen by two thirds over the lifetime of the survey too.

Miss Stokes continued: "The decline of birds like starlings and sparrows over the last 30 years or so has been alarming, but Big Garden Birdwatch has helped us find out more about their numbers and distribution across UK gardens, and that has been the first step in helping to put things right."

Some bird species have fared considerably better over the years.

Sightings of popular species like blue tits, great tits and coal tits in gardens have increased since 1979. Goldfinches, which were absent from the Big Garden Birdwatch top 15 in the early years, have featured regularly as a top 15 species since 2004.

■ **Visit www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch to find out more and take part.**

2012 TOP TEN

1. House sparrow
2. Starling
3. Blue tit
4. Collared dove
5. Blackbird
6. Wood pigeon
7. Chaffinch
8. Great tit
9. Robin
10. Goldfinch

Source: RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch

FEATHERED FRIENDS: Blue tits were the third most recorded bird spotted in last year's Big Garden Birdwatch

NEWS IN BRIEF

Gang snowball attack

DETECTIVES are hunting a gang of youths who viciously attacked a 55-year-old man who asked them to stop throwing snowballs at his house in Hoo.

He went outside his home in Knights Road at around 8.45pm on Monday and grabbed one of them by the arm, before he was punched in the face and repeatedly kicked in the head. He was then hit with an object on the back of the head. He suffered injuries to his eye and cheek.

Jobless figures drop

UNEMPLOYMENT numbers across the county fell in the three months to November by 324 and now stand at 34,402.

Medway was one of the top performing areas in the south as its number of people out of work figure fell by 153 to 6,655.

For the remainder of the county the number fell by 171 to 27,747

However, there were small rises in Canterbury, Dover, Shepway and Swale.

Jail for robbing £3 fare

TWO men have been jailed for 18 months after robbing a 14-year-old boy of his £3 bus fare home.

Stephen Campbell, 20, of Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, and Michael Beardmore, 31, of Weavers Way, Dover, pleaded guilty following last June's robbery in London Road, Dover.

The court heard how the two men confronted the teenager and grabbed him around the neck area, demanding cigarettes and money.

The terrified boy, scared of being hit, handed over his bus money.

CRIME

Teen shone laser pen at helicopter

A TEENAGER who dazzled police by shining a laser pen at a police helicopter as it attempted fo find an injured man has been sentenced at youth court.

The 17-year-old, from Hersden, near Canterbury, who cannot be named for legal reasons, shone the green laser light in the cockpit of the helicopter on the evening of December 16.

Police say such an act was potentially hugely dangerous and could have had devastating consequences that night.

Officers onboard were trying to help colleagues on the ground search for a man hurt after being involved in a collision.

The teenager was sentenced at Canterbury Youth Court to a youth rehabilitation order which consists of a three-month curfew. He must also pay £40 costs and a £15 victim surcharge.

Russ Woolford, base manager at the Air Support Unit, said: "Shining a laser at an aircraft causes significant danger to not only the crew on board, but the public below.

"It is a criminal offence and it could have fatal consequences.

"Due to the equipment on board, the crew were able to trace the offender's exact location and used the aircraft video camera to record the incident.

"Shining a laser at an aircraft is a serious incident and we will continue to prosecute anyone carrying out this offence."

WINTER SALE NOW ON
IN BOTH STORES

Regal Oak

Extending dining table	Usually £989	Sale price £789
Chair	Usually £145	Sale price £115
Display cabinet	Usually £1468	Sale price £1169

Crafted from oak solids and veneers sourced from managed forests

25,000 sq ft of beautiful furniture and beds for your home, including famous brands such as ***Parker Knoll, Sherborne, GPlan Upholstery, Stressless*** *by* ***Ekornes, Sealy, Slumberland and Reylon beds****.*
We also have a good selection of ex-display items at ***greatly reduced prices, some with up to 50% off***

NASONS of Canterbury
Nasons Furniture and Bed Centre
Maynard Road, Wincheap Estate, Canterbury
01227 463550 | www.nasons.co.uk

VAT Free

for all orders placed in January*

Planning your new kitchen, bathroom or bedroom?

We offer a **FREE** professional design service.

Visit our impressive award-winning showroom at Gillingham for inspiration and unrivalled choice.

Design you love.
Quality you expect.
Service you deserve.

ream
kitchens bedrooms bathrooms

www.ream.co.uk

Visit our showrooms at:
10-11 Matilda Close, Gillingham Business Park ME8 0PY 01634 388 331
758 Sidcup Road, New Eltham SE9 3NS 020 8857 2489

Kbsa the UK kitchen bathroom bedroom specialists association

TRUST MARK Government Endorsed Standards www.trustmark.org.uk

* Terms & Conditions apply

INVESTIGATION

Pulling power of the micropubs

Special KoS Report No music, no TVs, no lager or spirits, just real ale – **Joe Bill** meets the people at the vanguard of a growing business model currently revolutionising the UK drinks industry

AS THE high street struggles to cope with the deafening noise of falling retail giants, could their be some cheer on the horizon with a boom in micropubs?

The low-key drinking holes are springing up all around Britain, but it is in Kent, a county synonymous with hops, in which they are thriving.

Setting up in former shop premises, the micropub is a back-to-basics drinking experience, which capitalises on the change to licensing laws eight years ago.

Not tied to any big breweries, they source local real ales, shun lagers and spirits, ban video and gambling machines while the thought of big screen TVs sends a shiver down their spine.

Instead, they rely on developing an atmosphere based on good company and good ale.

There are currently 16 in the UK – and seven of those are in the county. What's more, they're set to double in the county within the next few months.

One of the founders of the micropub boom is Martyn Hillier, landlord of The Butcher's Arms at Herne, near Canterbury, the country's first micropub.

Since opening in 2005, it has bagged several awards from the Campaign for Real Ale (Camra).

Mr Hillier said: "I thought of the concept; real ale, no music, no mobile phones, no TV, no lager or spirits.

"The micropub model is a growing revolution in the pub world as overheads are low and it is possible to make a profit and hence a reasonable living.

"My concept – to convert empty shops into small pubs – is possible because of the change in the licensing laws in 2005, which saw a shake-up in the rules over the sale of alcohol.

"Pubs are closing these days because of high rents and long hours. The premises are often too large and worth more as a house than a pub."

Mr Hillier, who is also leader of the Micropubs Association which supports those opening up such establishments, firmly believes the model he started will continue to grow in the future.

He said: "In 2009, I was asked to do a presentation at Camra's AGM on micropubs. From that presentation others have been inspired to open similar pubs in the UK.

"Currently there are 16 open, of which seven are in Kent, and there are seven more to follow in the county by Easter."

Food is generally shunned, but some do serve local cheeses or pork pies as an aperitif to their ales.

He added: "The art of conversation has returned to my pub. Complete strangers actually talk to each other while enjoying a pint of real ale in top condition."

WATERING HOLE: The Black Dog in Whitstable is opening in the coming months

...but what of the big boys?

Faversham brewer Shepherd Neame, which owns more than 300 establishments across the UK, does not believe there will be a detrimental impact from the micropub movement.

Sales and marketing director Graeme Craig said: "We welcome anything that broadens the audience for good quality beer.

"We enjoyed working with some of Kent's microbreweries for the Green Hop Beer fortnight in 2012, and look forward to participating in the project again this year."

Landlords starting up can select premises not previously used as a pub, they can select their own cask ales and, in some cases, even impose some unusual rules.

As we reported last week, the Firkin Alehouse in Folkestone bans the use of mobile phones and charges its guests £1 if they have to use them, with the cash going to charity.

Parallels are being drawn with the retail sector as the economic climate continues to kill off chain stores but is allowing more niche boutique shops, which add a little character too, to flourish.

With many experts suggesting our town centres need to embrace a more continental 'café culture' to inject life back into them, the micropub may yet prove a vital component to its revival.

What's more, they are providing a shot in the arm for microbreweries – of which there are around 25 in the county.

At the Conqueror Alehouse in Ramsgate the micropub landlord offers Gadds' Ramsgate RPA from the brewery just down the road. It's easy to source and the lack of road miles helps to keep the price of the ale low.

Thanet is flush with these new-style inns and already houses the Four Candles Alehouse in Broadstairs, the Bake and Ale House in Westgate-on-Sea and the part bookshop/part drinking hole now known as The Chapel in Broadstairs.

Julian Dungey, chairman of the Thanet branch of Camra, has his own theories on why micropubs are thriving in the county.

He said: "It's the fairly low start-up and running costs: overheads are kept to a minimum, they employ very few staff, there are reduced opening hours, no expensive entertainment or gambling licences, and low rents as they are found mainly in former shops.

"Micropubs have cornered a market in providing a service people actually want rather than the big pubs telling customers what they think they want."

And there is likely to be one near you soon. Over the coming months there will be new micropubs in Whitstable, Tankerton, Birchington, Ramsgate, Margate, Welling and Wye.

Mr Dungey added: "Micropubs are the future and we appear to have come full circle.

"In the past landlords would open up their front parlour for the consumption of beers they had brewed themselves for the locals. People seem to have tired of the brash noisy pub and prefer the safe quiet atmosphere the micropub provides."

■ **For more information visit www.micropub-association.co.uk.**

HAIL TO THE ALE: Locals enjoy a pint at The Butcher's Arms at Herne, the country's first micropub

LET GOOD THINGS HAPPEN
Mercure
www.mercurehytheimperial.co.uk
Tel. 01303 267441

Romance is in the air

Ready for Romance Package
1 night stay, dinner, bed & breakfast inc. a bottle of Prosecco and box of chocolates on arrival from £139 for two.

Valentines Menu
Non-resident, 3-course menu, with welcome drink and chocolate gift just £29 per person.

Call 01303 267441 to book or email h6862@accor.com
Available between 8th - 17th February 2013
Mercure Hythe Imperial Hotel & Spa, Princes Parade, Hythe, Kent, CT21 6AE www.mercurehytheimperial.co.uk

ALL PRICES INCLUDE CONSTRUCTION

MASSIVE SALE NOW ON

BIG SAVINGS ON EVERY CABIN

ALAMOSA 5m x 4m

ELDORADO 5m x 5m

FREE PACKAGE UPGRADE

FREE ROOF INSULATION

PAVILION 5.5m x 4m

NEW METRO 5m x 3.5m

FREE LAMINATE FLOORING

FREE HOME SITE VISITS

HEMPSTEAD 4m x 3m

HOMESTEAD 8.4m x 4.1m

FREE INSTANT QUOTATIONS

FREE BESPOKE SERVICE

PLEASE CALL FOR OUR NEW 2013 BROCHURE

FREE WARRANTY

Come and see our new **ALL INCLUSIVE PACKAGE DEALS** on log cabins at Johnsons Est. 1960

- NO HIDDEN EXTRAS all packages include vat, delivery, installation, roof coverings, fixings, door & window furniture
- SUPERIOR QUALITY COMPONENTS thicker walls, roof & floor boards, premium quality windows & doors
- FREE SITE SURVEYS & ESTIMATES - from our friendly, experienced staff
- NO PRESSURE SELLING - we don't need to, our product sells itself
- FULL BACK UP SERVICE - unparalleled warranty & after service
- MADE TO MEASURE SERVICE AVAILABLE - we can fully design, manufacture and build your log cabin to your pecifications

available with...internal rooms/laminate flooring/double glazing/insulation/electrics/climate control

Call us for a free colour brochure or a no obligation quotation on **0845 45 99 444**

Johnsons Nursery
Old Thanet Way,
near McDonalds, Chestfield,
Whitstable CT5 3JD
01227 793717

Polhill Garden Centre
Outside Display Area
London Road, Halstead,
Sevenoaks TN14 7AD
01959 533466

Notcutts Garden Centre
Outside Display Area
Newham Court Village
Maidstone ME14 5LH
01622 730777

Johnsons Est. 1960 Garden Buildings

www.johnsonsgardenbuildings.co.uk

HEALTH

NHS funds project to help ex-service personnel cope with trauma of war

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

MENTALLY traumatised ex-soldiers trying to adjust to civilian life are to be given extra support to help them cope with the horrors they experienced during their time on the frontline.

Research shows that combat veterans aged 24 and under are two to three times more likely to commit suicide than non-military people.

Ex-military personnel also have higher rates of alcohol misuse than the general population, with alcohol believed to be used as a coping mechanism for post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety or depression. But despite this, evidence suggests these people often fail to seek help due to the stigma surrounding mental health in the military.

NHS Kent and Medway is investing £150,000 over the next three years in a project to support people who have left or are leaving the Armed Forces, and help them with the mental health care they may need when adjusting to life back on civvy street.

Lauretta Kavanagh, lead commissioner for mental health for NHS Kent and Medway, said: "Many military personnel have experienced the horror of the battlefield during their careers.

"When they leave the Army, they can feel alone, find employment difficult and might relive some of their experiences which further isolates them. They might turn to alcohol to help them cope and mask mental health problems.

"We recognise the need for mental health support for ex-service personnel, which is why we have announced this investment. The need for help will rise following the withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan and 20,000 redundancies in the defence review, of which a number will be in Kent and Medway."

There are some 130,000 ex-service personnel living in the county.

The project will educate mental health professionals in the military way of thinking, culture and language so they understand what ex-soldiers may have experienced. They can then adapt their support. Therapies proved to help treat complex and multiple trauma will also be made available.

"This will increase awareness among GPs and mental health professionals about the difficulties veterans face," said Dr Bob Bowes, clinical chair for West Kent Clinical Commissioning Group.

A Veterans' Mental Health Network is being set up to ensure the most appropriate services are available for those who need them.

STRESS OF BEING TRAINED TO KILL

Shocking figures released by Kent Police and the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association (SSAFA) in 2010, showed the alarming number of ex-military being arrested in the county.

Over a three-month period some 232 former and current servicemen were arrested.

SSAFA defended the high figure blaming the stress of the job, death of comrades and difficulty in adjusting back to real life.

A Kent spokesman said: "The job is highly stressful and challenging.

"We're training ordinary human beings to kill people.

"They're also seeing their friends killed. It's very hard to adjust back to real life after this."

Motorcyclist is killed in crash

A 20-year-old motorcyclist was killed on Thursday after a crash on the Ashford-bound carriageway of the A2042 Romney Marsh Road.

It is believed he came off his bike at around 10.10am. Any witnesses should call 101.

MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE or ACCIDENT CLAIM?

Girlings Personal Injury Claims Ltd is a Canterbury-based company specialising in accidents at work, medical negligence, head injuries and car/motorcycle accidents.

- You keep 100% of your compensation
- No-win no fee
- Friendly local Business
- Specialising in accidents at work, road traffic accidents, medical negligence claims and slips and trips.

Contact us now
Telephone
01227 768374
Email:
personal@girlingspersonalinjury.co.uk
16 Rose Lane, Canterbury
www.girlingspersonalinjury.co.uk

Girlings PERSONAL INJURY CLAIMS LTD

NOTHING TO PAY US AT ANY STAGE

Boiler breakdown?
You can hire
The British Gas Team

One-off repairs from just £79‡

Our team of professional engineers will fix your boiler fast, and you'll get:

- A competitive fixed-price quote
- Parts and labour included*
- All work guaranteed for 12 months

For a one-off boiler repair call
0800 000 999†
quoting X846

You don't even need to be a British Gas customer, so save the number in your phone today.

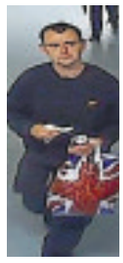
britishgas.co.uk
British Gas
Looking after your world

* Terms and conditions apply. For further information visit britishgas.co.uk/999 ‡ Prices for households within the M25 vary. Subject to availability † Calls may be monitored and/or recorded for quality assurance and compliance purposes.

CRIME

'Sickening' arsonist targeted hospitals to fund drugs habit

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk



CAUGHT ON CAMERA: CCTV footage shows Ashcroft in Medway Maritime Hospital

A CRUEL crook who set fire to two Kent hospitals, forcing cancer patients who were receiving treatment to evacuate the premises and causing thousands of pounds of damage, has been sentenced to eight years behind bars.

Thomas Ashcroft, 35, of no fixed abode, was arrested following a series of arson attacks on hospitals, hotels and public places during July and August of last year.

On his sentencing, police chiefs said his crimes were "sickening" and that it was a miracle no-one was seriously hurt or even killed as a result of his actions.

Ashcroft lit the fires in a bid to distract employees so he could steal cash.

He targeted two Kent hospitals – Medway Maritime in Gillingham and the Kent and Canterbury – forcing the building to be evacuated, and disrupting the treatment of patients.

Ashcroft was caught on CCTV at Medway Maritime on August 29, where he started a fire in a store cupboard.

Prompt action by Kent Fire and Rescue Service (KFRS) resulted in the blaze being extinguished quickly and no-one was injured in the incident. However, it is estimated that between £10,000 and £15,000 worth of damage was caused.

Just a day later, Ashcroft targeted the hospital in Canterbury and again started a fire in a cupboard. During the evacuation of the hospital he stole £25 from the hospital café. In this instance £70,000 of damage was caused.

Ashcroft was arrested after contacting Kent Police from a telephone box in Ramsgate and handing himself in regarding a separate matter.

After his arrest, officers from the Kent and Essex Serious Crime Directorate launched an investigation.

Enquiries linked him to three offences in Kent and subsequently to a string of offences across the country, including crimes in Manchester, Rotherham and Brighton – all of which used the same method of fire to distract as he stole cash or property.

Overseeing the investigation was Detective Inspector Lee Whitehead. He said: "Ashcroft put the lives of hundreds of people in danger to steal money to finance his drug habit.

"His actions were entirely selfish. To force cancer patients to abandon their treatment is nothing short of sickening and Ashcroft should be ashamed for causing stress and anxiety to those who are fighting serious illness.

"It is testament to the staff at the various establishments and the prompt reactions of the fire service that nobody was hurt, seriously injured or killed."

ABBEY COURT SCHOOL teaches pupils with Severe, and Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties between the ages of 3 and 19. The school is based on 2 sites in Rainham (Nursery and Primary, and Strood (Secondary and Further Education)

- SCHOOL VIDEO
  An insight into who we are.
- ALL ABOUT US
  A tour of the school and presentation.
- DIFFERENTIATED CURRICULUM
  A presentation on how our teaching and learn-ing is differentiated to meet the special needs of our pupils.
- WHAT NEXT ?
  Questions and answers.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Are you currently working as a Supply Teacher?

Have you thought of widening your experience working with Special Educational Needs pupils?

Would you like to find out more?

Why not come along to our Taster morning and discover more about working in a special school……

Tuesday 5th February
9.30am to 1pm
Abbey Court School, Long Catlis Road, Rainham, Kent ME8 9TX

To reserve a free place, telephone the school on 01634 338220, or e-mail office@abbeycourt.medway.sch.uk

OPEN SUNDAY 10-4
FURNITURE AND ELECTRICAL STORE

HUGE SAVINGS!
Why not give your home a full makeover!

RECYCLE FOR LIFE

HOUSE CLEARANCE
CHEAPER THAN THE REST AND ALL FOR A GOOD CAUSE
Landlords, tenants & homebuyers
Furnish your home for under £500 with good quality furniture & electricals & help fight heart disease & save lives too!

• Suites • Lounge Furniture • Dining Tables • Coffee Tables •Beds, Bedroom Furniture • TVs, DVDs, Hi-Fi's • Washing Machines • Fridges • Dishwashers

We need your donations of furniture & electrical items.
10-11 High Street,
Maidstone, Kent. ME14 1HT
Maidstone: 0844 417 9226
Sittingbourne: 0844 499 4168
Opening Times:
Monday-Saturday 9.30am-5.00pm
Sunday 10 - 4pm

British Heart Foundation Furniture & Electrical Store
Registered Charity Number 225971

*Calls cost 5p per minute from a BT landline. Charges from other providers and mobiles may vary **We can reclaim 28p in every £1 raised from the sale of your donation from the HMRC. Occasionally we are unable to accept an item that is offered to us for reasons of safety and quality.

TDC Implant Centres

www.smileinaday.co.uk

The ultimate alternative to dentures

No more loose, missing or false teeth - because now there's **Smile-In-A-Day!**

Award Winning Dental Implant Treatment

If you've lost confidence because of dentures, or loose or missing teeth, the advanced Smile In A Day technique from TDC is the answer.

We'll give you a natural smile with smooth, even teeth using a method that takes less time and causes less pain and discomfort than conventional treatment. We don't use dentures, plates, crowns or caps. Instead, we employ a technologically-advanced technique which provides a permanent solution so you can talk, smile, laugh and eat with absolute confidence.

How can we give you all this in just one day? Because our General Dental Council registered specialists* use a pioneering system that is both tried and tested. And because we've refined our skills to become as efficient as possible.

Call today to see how Smile In A Day can give you all this:

- A permanent, natural smile
- The ability to enjoy food again
- Confidence when you meet people
- An end to shame and embarrassment
- Extremely high success rate
- Superior skill levels from registered specialists
- Full guarantee on all work
- Choice of easy payment options

Call today to arrange your **free, no obligation** consultation.

CALL FREE 0800 041 3011**

Visit our website for more information: www.smileinaday.co.uk

Before

Dentures or loose or missing teeth means lack of confidence, reluctance to smile, inability to eat properly and enjoy food.

After

Smile In A Day gives you back your confidence with a beaming, natural smile - and lets you eat and enjoy whatever you want.

TDC Harley Street Clinic
77 Harley Street, London W1G 8QN

TDC Folkestone Clinic
Suite 1, 92 Sandgate Road, Folkestone, Kent CT20 2BE

TDC Peterborough Clinic
3rd Floor Market Chambers, Cathedral Square, Peterborough PE1 1XW

Read more testimonials from our happy customers on our website.

"Wow. Thank you so, so much. I love my new smile."

Sally Ann, Smile In A Day patient.

Let Smile In A Day bring back your smile.

*Our surgeons are all specialist Periodontists or Maxillofacial surgeons. **If you are not calling from a landline, call charges may apply.

AACD American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry® ACCREDITED MEMBER

BRITELITE
Windows, Doors & Conservatories

During 2012, our customers TRUSTED Britelite to install 284 conservatories and 23,221 windows in the South East alone

13th December 2012

Mr Kelly, Mitcham
Very pleased with the installation.

Mr Willson, Rochester
Very pleased with the end result. The fitters were excellent. They were very professional and worked hard in the two days they were on site to complete the job. Thank you.

Mrs Warham, Broadstairs
The men came, worked hard on the FSG it was freezing cold. I was pleased with the workmanship especially in such unpleasant weather.

Mrs Ralph, Sittingbourne
Very polite and hardworking.

Ms Wyles, Deal
The young man that came to install my Britelite Window and doors was prompt, very polite and didn't stop once for a drink although they were offered. I was very impressed with his working standards.

Mrs Webb, Teston
Next year we intend replacing the back window. Therefore we will be in touch with you than.

Jo Lane, Biggin Hill
Our fitters were friendly and efficient and tidy. Our sales rep again was friendly informative and didn't start at silly prices. Nice man. Very pleased with windows.

11th December 2012

Mr Adams, Crowborough
First class job, very satisfied

Mrs Cooper, Edenbridge
Very friendly and efficient.

Mr Pegg, Cliftonville
Extremely efficient, courteous and helpful fitting team. My unfortunate disability was well acknowledged.

10th December 2012

Mr Trigg, Chatham
Very good work, nice bunch of lads, any issues were dealt with and put right, kept dirt and noise to a minimum. Very fast work.

Mr Guerra, Putney
This is the second time the fitter has installed windows for me. On both occasions his work has been top quality and he is very professional in his attitude and work.

Mrs Scoon, Middlesex
I was pleased with the service from start to finish. The initial person who gave the quote and the teams who worked on the porch and conservatories. All professional and knowledgeable and the manner in which they conducted themselves will ensure we use Britelite again in the future.

Mr Manwaring, Hildenborough
Excellent workers good attention to detail, no hesitation in recommending Britelite. Conservatory is everything we hoped for.

Mr Skinner, Tonbridge
The sales rep turned up when he said he would. He was friendly and pleasant to deal with. The office staff were friendly and efficient every time we contacted them. The installers arrived in time, they were friendly, did a great job and left the property tidy. I can't recommend Britelite highly enough.

Mr & Mrs Schmidt, Forest Row
On time, fast, efficient.

Ms Stockwell, Cobham
Very nice, company – helpful without trying to do a hard sell. I felt people were honest and straight forward.

Mrs Vocking, Chertsey
The workmen were very polite and tidy. Everything was covered up when they were working and they left the place tidy and did the job well on first glance.

7th December 2012

Mr & Mrs Ahmed, Tunbridge Wells
Fitters are very good and overall everything is excellent. Keep your standards and service same like this.

6th December 2012

Mrs Joel, Uckfield
Beautiful windows, fantastic quality, Thank you.

3rd December 2012

Mrs Bertelsen, Dover
Excellent workers, got on with the jobs directly they arrived. Very pleasant to talk to. Left rooms very tidy and clean when they left. Recommended.

Mr Akhurst, Rainham
A very good job done, fitter left it clean and tidy, very pleased with the new door could not ask for better service.

Mr & Mrs Little, Rochester
Fitter were very approachable for questions and gave 100% to their work which showed in the end result.

Mr Boardman, Ashford
I must comment on the standard of the installation team as excellent, very clean and tidy and we are most pleased with the end result.

30th November 2012

Ms Arnold, Sidcup
We're really pleased with our new porch doors and windows. Service from the whole team was excellent. The fitters were very tidy and cleaned up after themselves. The whole experience was very good. Would definitely use you again when we want our windows done.

Mr McGibbon, Rainham
Excellent experience all round . Good advice, friendly and helpful staff.

29th November 2012

Mr & Mrs Godden, Deal
After having all our windows replaced by Britelite and being so pleased with both product and workmanship, we decided to have a new front door, which has also reached our full expectations of the quality and installations from Britelite. No mess, no fuss, from installers who were very friendly and polite, clean and tidy. Thank you again.

28th November 2012

Miss Todd, Hounslow
Tidied up beautifully.

Mr San, Hayes
The fitting team very good at their job. Would recommend to others for future work.

Mr & Mrs Betts, Watford
First class job done by very friendly professional fitter. Excellent at cleaning up afterwards, beautiful windows and doors. We wouldn't hesitate to use Britelite again and recommend you to friends and family. Thank you.

Mr & Mrs Aldridge, Maidstone
The wife and I are more than pleased with the work done on the door and windows. The two workers were very good, they left the place tidy. I would recommend your firm to anyone.

Mr & Mrs Mower, Maidstone
A 1st class job from a 1st class company! A super job, lovely workman who were professional and took pride in their work. Excellent windows and doors which have transformed our home. The office staff have also been efficient with good communication. Many Thanks.

Mrs Newbury, Hatfield
We were very impressed with the service we were provided with from the sales representative coming to quote for windows through to installation I must say the fitters were very tidy, professional and helpful

27th November 2012

Miss Stapleton, Erith
It's the second time we have used Britelite and once again very pleased with results. Your team friendly quick and efficient and work done to a high standard. All areas cleaned well when finished.

Mrs Contreas, Ramsgate
Fitter very efficient, cleaned and tidied afterwards. Friendly manner.

Mr & Mrs Styles, Epsom
The fitters were charming helpful, polite and tidy a pleasure to have in ones house.

26th November 2012

Mr & Mrs Mattock, Sittingbourne
Both my Dad and Mother in law had your doors and windows fitted and were very pleased with them. Apart from supplying quality products at a very reasonable price, we were particularly pleased by the sales reps no pressure quote. There was no sign today to get this price technique, which I think most people really dislike. I am happy to recommend your product.

Mr & Mrs Mattock, Sittingbourne I am very satisfied with the base team. They were friendly and worked with enthusiasm throughout the base work. Top team very friendly work tirelessly throughout the days that they worked completing the conservatory.

P.Hookham, Bromley
Very highly recommended workmen excellent and very neat and tidy.

Mr O'Brien, Rochester
The whole process was quick and easy from start to finish, the installation team did a very good job putting in the windows the workmanship was A++ would recommend to anybody.

These are just a few of the testimonials we have received in the last month!

CALL FREE 0800 50 50 70

Or visit our website for a FREE online quotation
www.britelitewindows.co.uk

Picture: HAYLEY BROWN

A snow family in Darenth

Picture: SCOTT BRAWN

Rochester Cathedral

Picture: ANTIGONE COTE

The Port of Dover

WEATHER

County shivers after a week in an icy grip

MORE than 200 schools closed their doors on Monday as the county groaned under the weight of heavy snow showers last weekend.

But with most of the snow falling during the day on Sunday, and plenty of advance warning, the county's key transport routes were kept moving.

However, the prolonged sub-zero temperatures throughout the week did cause delays on the rails and made driving conditions, especially on side roads, treacherous.

But, as ever, while many struggled, plenty of others enjoyed the winter white-out – with our readers sending in some of their highlights.

Picture: PAUL FOURACRE

The Empire Strikes Back in Rainham

Snow angel in Whitstable

Picture: WARREN LIGHTFOOT

White water in Canterbury

EURO TUNNEL le shuttle
Half price day trip
Only £23 per car, return*
Hurry!
Offer ends 20 February
Call now!
0844 335 1647
eurotunnel.com/dayoffer
* Valid on Tuesday 19, Wednesday 20 and Thursday 21 February 2013. Subject to availability. Offer can be withdrawn at any time without prior notice. Terms and Conditions apply.
FOLKESTONE - CALAIS
Gedess: 725278

EST. 2001
JASON LIDDIARD
HAIRDRESSING
Feel Better!
SAVE 40% in our Colour Sale!
Terms and Conditions apply. Valid from 2nd Jan - 2nd March 2013
66a High Street | Rainham | Kent | ME8 7JF | 01634 262662
jasonliddiardhairdesign
L'ORÉAL
AVEDA the art and science of pure flower and plant essences
SHU UEMURA

TECHNOLOGY

Firm's magnetic role in making the Hadron Collider a success

Exclusive
By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

THE role a Kent company played in one of the most exciting scientific break-throughs in a generation – the discovery of the so-called God particle – has emerged.

Hythe firm HV Wooding were chosen ahead of competitors around the world to help construct the Large Hadron Collider in Switzerland.

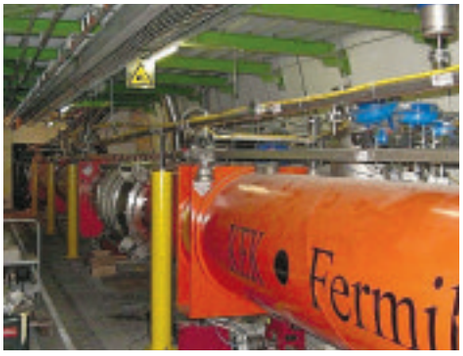
It was built to investigate the very origins of the universe and proved the existance of the Higgs boson (see box).

The Hythe firm created the vital yokes to hold in place magnets which generate the particles used to get a better understanding of the fundamental laws of nature.

The scientific trade secret was revealed when business minister and Sevenoaks MP Michael Fallon visited the company's Range Road Industrial Estate plant.

"You helped to discover the God particle – and from a small business in Kent," said a clearly astonished Mr Fallon.

Harry Wooding, managing director of the family firm which has been operating since 1966, said: "This shows that our business is, quite literally, at the cutting edge of science. What is also gratifying is that we beat off competition from companies across Europe – because the physicists working on the Hadron were confident we could deliver the precision engineering they required."



ACHIEVEMENT: Michael Fallon was impressed to learn HV Wooding provided parts used in the generation of particles necessary for discovering the previously elusive Higgs boson

HV Wooding started work on the particle physics project – which is housed in a 17-mile long circular tunnel 175 metres below the countryside of the Franco-Swiss border, close to Geneva – in 2011.

The firm has since completed around £400,000 of business with its operators, the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN), and further contracts are expected, with Wooding staff frequent visitors to the experimental facility.

One £70,000 deal was reached as the Hythe company's tender was just £50 lower than its nearest rival.

WHAT IS THE HIGGS BOSON?

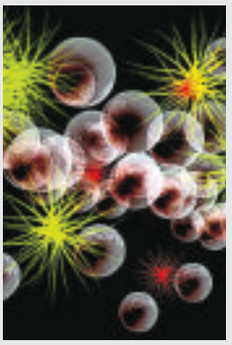
The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) took 10 years to build, becaming operational in 2008. Its purpose is to allow scientists to test different theories about the exact nature of the matter which makes up the universe.

The £2.6 billion device works by accelerating two beams of atomic particles in opposite directions around the tunnel.

When the particle beams reach their maximum speed the LHC allows them to hit each other at four points on their circular journey. Thousands of new particles are produced when the particles collide and detectors placed around the collision points allow scientists to identify these new particles by tracking their behaviour.

As the energy produced in the collisions increases researchers are able to look deeper into the fundamental structure of time and space. In these extreme conditions previously unknown atomic particles may appear.

One of those identified last year was the so-called God particle – which gives matter its mass and so holds the physical fabric of the universe together. It is officially called the Higgs boson particle after its existence was first proposed by Professor Peter Higgs almost 50 years ago.



Scientists said the discovery was a gateway to a new era that could see humanity unlock some of the universe's great mysteries. They have speculated that it could one day make light speed travel possible by removing the mass of objects, or allow huge items to be launched into space by "effectively switching off" the Higgs.

BEAUTIFULLY DESIGNED INTERIORS

• FREE MEASURING AND ADVICE • CURTAINS - EXTENSIVE RANGE
• BLINDS - ALL TYPES • AMAZING WALLPAPERS & PAINT
• SOFT FURNISHINGS AND UPHOLSTERY
• OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE

www.vinehouseinteriors.co.uk | 01732 882904

VH Vine House Interiors

Established 1981
SupaGlazing Limited
Over 52,000 customers!

Introducing the...
Supa Diamond
A rated, **ANY** size, **ANY** number of openers, White UPVC

4 WINDOWS £1,368.00 inc VAT

5 WINDOWS £1,704.00 inc VAT

6 WINDOWS £2,040.00 inc VAT

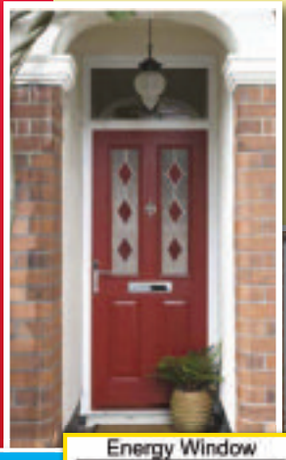
7 WINDOWS £2,378.40 inc VAT

All inclusive of fitting, survey, guarantee & includes Pilkington Energikare saving glass.

January Sale Now On!
...Kent's leading double glazing manufacturer

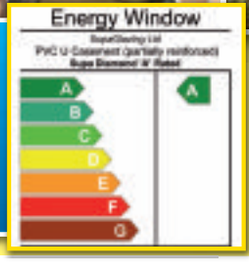
30% OFF All Conservatories & Orangeries

Celebrating over 32 years of beautiful windows... Guaranteed
Finance available subject to status, written quotations available on request.



A Rated Windows
- Pilkington **Optiwhite**™ (outer pane)
- Argon gas filling with warm edge spacer
- Pilkington **K Glass**™ **OW** (inner pane)

A Rated Windows



Don't just glaze it, Supaglaze it!

All of our Installers are CRB checked.

Hurry! Offers end 5th February

Knight Road, Strood (opposite Morrisons)
01634 294 696 Open 6 days a week Monday - Saturday 9am - 5pm

2 Roman Square, Sittingbourne **01795 422 877**
13 Lowfield Street, Dartford **01322 290 525**

AS HEARD ON heart 103.1 102.8 MasterCard VISA FENSA REGISTERED COMPANY

Profile: BS7950 BS7413
Door Lock: BS3621
Toughened Glass: BSEN12150-1

Factory awarded British Safety Council Safety Award: Every Year Since 1984

Head office and factories at Deacon Trading Centre, Knight Road, Strood.

www.supaglazing.com

International Safety Awards 2011 WINNER BRITISH SAFETY COUNCIL

51028

LET US CREATE A PARADISE

especially for you...

ANY SHAPE, ANY SIZE, ANY WHERE

• No More Mowing • No More Brown Spots
• No More Muddy Kids • No More Muddy Paw Prints
• Just sit back & relax • Usable all year round
• Child & Pet Friendly • No Fuss, No Hassle, No Worries
• Free Samples • Free Site Survey & Quotations • Full Supply
& Installation Service • Supply only service for the DIY Enthusiast

Forever Green Lawns
Artificial Grass Specialists

Email: sales@forevergreenlawns.co.uk

Free Phone:
0800 668 1958
Tel: 01732 323122

www.forevergreenlawns.co.uk

ALL CHANGE: Live Margate plans to renovate enough properties to attact new affluent homebuyers

HOUSING

Fears amid the hope as ambitious regeneration scheme gets under way

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

AN AMBITIOUS multi-million pound scheme to regenerate parts of Margate, and breathe new life into deprived areas of the town has been launched.

But critics of the scheme – which aims to restore Edwardian buildings to their original splendour to attract more affluent house buyers – say it is social engineering, where the most vulnerable could be forced out of their homes.

Live Margate is a £23.1 million project aimed at regenerating areas beset by social problems and run down, derelict properties.

It is spearheaded by Thanet District Council, Kent County Council and the Homes and Communities Agency.

It says low quality, high density, bedsits can lead to poverty and deprivation. So the plan is to create a "tipping-point" by renovating enough properties to attract a new wave of affluent, employed, residents.

The scheme is aimed at two council wards, Margate Central and Cliftonville West, which have, in recent years, been home to a large number of troubled and vulnerable residents; many living in poorly maintained bedsits owned by absentee landlords.

The first stage is the acquisition of the former Embassy Hotel.

Live Margate aims to restore up to 300 premises, using compulsory purchase orders if necessary, and make them available for shared ownership, affordable rent or owner occupation.

The Embassy Hotel was one of the main features of Edwardian Cliftonville, a popular and stylish holiday venue.

But as it fell into disrepair it became the site of 30 flats, before it was vandalised and abandoned.

Now contractors Richardson Ltd are tasked with its restoration and conversion to two, four bedroom, family homes.

John Neville, managing director, said: "We intend to be finished by July. The homes could be on the market for up to £200,000. And as the area undergoes regeneration, so the prices of homes will rise."

Madeline Homer, director of community services for Thanet council, said the project is aimed at an overall restoration of the area: "Part of the project involves work skills programmes and education. To integrate people more into society will be of great benefit to everyone."

Ms Homer said the area had seen significant levels of reported drug abuse, but this had dropped by nine per cent following a police crackdown.

But the scheme does create some social engineering questions which concern many.

Ian Driver is an independent Thanet councillor.

He said: "There are around 5,500 people on the housing list in Thanet and here is an opportunity to provide accommodation for some of them in the form of social rented housing.

"There is some provision for this, but not as much as I would like.

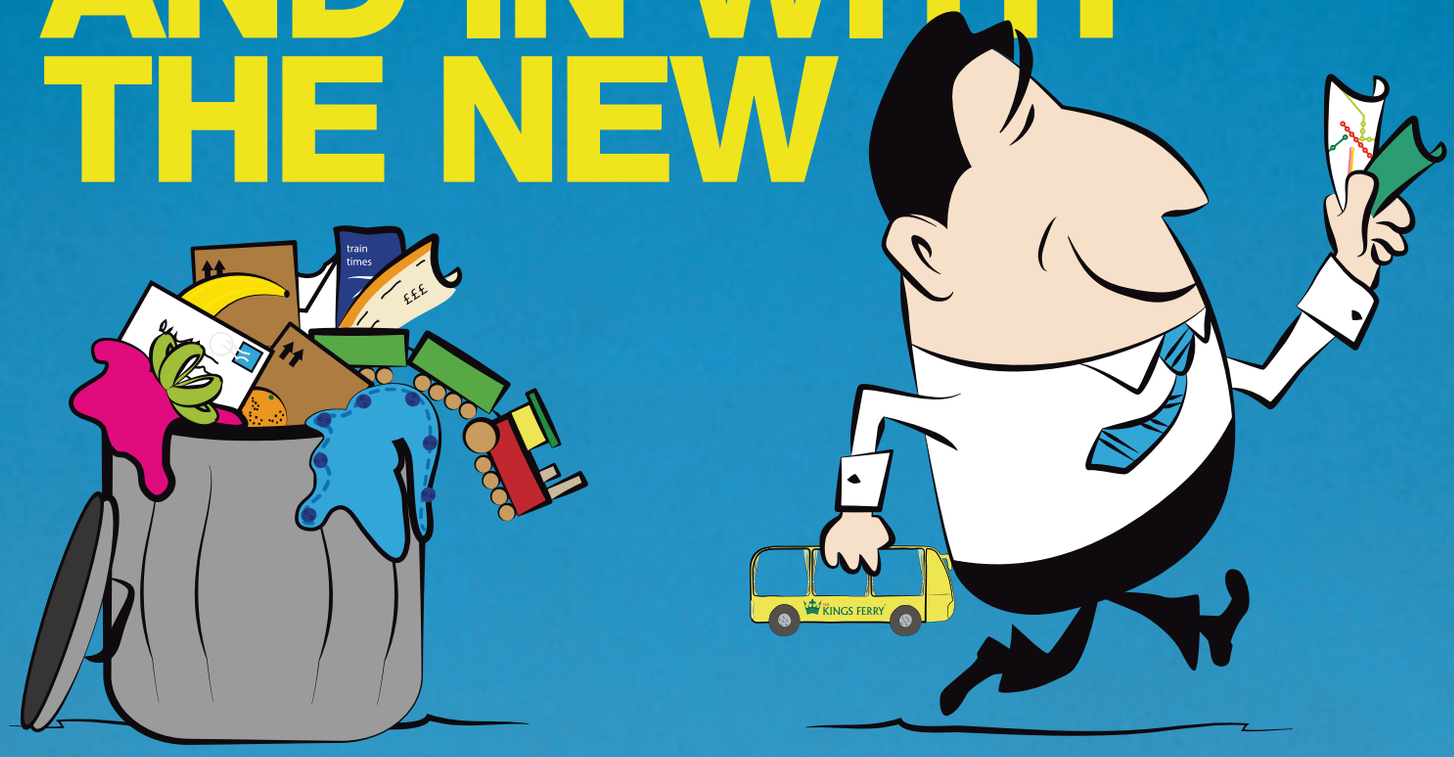
"I am also worried about what is going to happen to the people being dispersed.

"There is the potential for vulnerable people to be left without a home. I understand a dispersal strategy has been established. But no details have been made available."

■ What do you think of the scheme? Share your view. Write to: The Editor, KOS, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS. Or email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk.

COMMUTE BY COACH WITH THE KINGS FERRY

OUT WITH THE OLD AND IN WITH THE NEW



Trade in your rail ticket and we will give you your remaining travel time back, on top of your Kings Ferry annual season ticket up to a maximum of 2 months.*

Because getting to work shouldn't be hard work.

*Terms and Conditions apply. See website for details.

Covering Medway:

THE KINGS FERRY® PROFESSIONALLY DRIVEN
01634 265 510
thekingsferry.co.uk

Covering Swale:

THE TRAVEL LINK.co.uk PUTTING VALUE FIRST
01634 265 503
thetravellink.co.uk

@commuterupdate Commuterupdate

Part of national express

EVENTS

Ballot set to open in rush for 17,000 free tickets to our top attractions

NEW ON THE LIST FOR 2013

- **Cyclopark, Gravesend**
- East Kent Railway, Shepherdswell
- **DFDS Seaways**
- Gravesend Old Town Hall
- **Howletts and Port Lympne wild animal parks**
- Joss Bay Surf School, Broadstairs
- **Sittingbourne and Kemsley Light Railway**

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

THOUSANDS of free tickets to the county's top tourist attractions will be up for grabs as My Kent Big Weekend returns for 2013.

The annual event, launched by Visit Kent seven years ago, will see more than 17,000 free tickets on offer for attractions big and small.

LOTS OF CHOICES: From left, Penshurst Place, Kent and East Sussex Railway and Port Lympne are among the many attractions to choose from

All the tickets are awarded via a ballot – the website for which goes fully live on Monday, January 28. Each household in the county can apply for two tickets.

Among the activities and attractions on offer will be castles, vineyards, wildlife parks and riverboat tours.

The website will remain open for applications until midnight on Febuary 18.

My Big Kent Weekend – when the tickets can be used – will be March 23 and 24. It now forms part of English Tourism Week.

Among the attractions taking part are: Tonbridge Castle, the Historic Dockyard Chatham, Rochester Cathedral, the Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch Railway, Leeds Castle, Penshurst Place, Dover Castle, and Kent & East Sussex Railway.

Sandra Matthews-Marsh, chief executive at Visit Kent, said: "My Kent Big Weekend is all about having fun and celebrating the variety of attractions and hidden gems which make our county such a popular destination for day visits and short breaks.

"These attractions, and the wide range of sporting and creative activities available, entertain our visitors but they also add so much to our quality of life as Kent residents.

"My Kent Big Weekend gives us all an opportunity to get out and about and discover new days out and entertainment on our doorstep – and then we are able to recommend those experiences to all our friends and families."

Anyone without internet access to visit www.mykentbigweekend.co.uk can go to a local visitor information centre for more information and to enter the ballot.

KEY DATES

BIG WEEKEND
Sat 23rd & Sun 24th of March 2013

To register for two free tickets:
Visit www.mykentbigweekend.co.uk
Ballot opens January 28
Ballot closes February 18
My Kent Big Weekend March 23-24

Our totally amazing
WINTER SALE
HUNDREDS OF BARGAINS WITH SOME AS LOW AS 1/2 PRICE

New 'Eton' Painted Bedroom Collection with solid Oak Tops
eg. 7 Drawer Wide Chest Introductory offer price £349.80
After offer price £489.80

1/2 PRICE 'Kent' Oak Corner TV Unit £399.50 £199.75
1/2 PRICE Small Oak Corner Console Table £259.50 £129.75
1/2 PRICE 'Kent' Oak Sideboards all ½ price small, medium, large. eg Large £639.50 £299.75
Oak Nest Tables £278.50 £139.75 1/2 PRICE
1/2 PRICE Oak Computer Cabinet £399.50 £199.75
'Oregon' Oak Display Cabinet £479.90 £239.90 1/2 PRICE
'Rutland' Oak T.V unit £319.80 £249.80 20% OFF
20% OFF 'Whitstable' Oak wardrobe with mirror door £999.80 £799.80
'Mountford' Rustic Oak Bedroom Collection eg. 5 Drawer Wellington Chest £359.80 NOW £259.80 up to 25%off
35% OFF 'Grandeur' Oak extending Table & 4 Chairs (additional chairs available) £1149 £739
£90 OFF Bonded Leather Chair £159.50 £69.50 each
'Salvador' 4 deep Drawer Chest Drawers £249.80 £199.80 20% OFF
20% OFF Laundry Box £24.50 £59.80
20% OFF Oak Occasional Tables £89.80 £69.80 each
'OLIVIA' Oak 1.3 extending table & 4 chairs set (additional chairs available) £999 NOW £699 30%off
20% OFF 9" Deep 'Badger' Bookcases eg 6' high £189.80 £149.80
1/2 PRICE Large Draw Leaf Oak table £799.50 £399.75

OUR PRICE GUARANTEE
We will not be beaten on price
Please visit our website for details

Whilst stocks last
PINE & THINGS Furnishers
Wincheap Road (junc. with A2, Retail Park) Canterbury, Kent CT1 3TY
FREE PARKING
www.pineandthings.co.uk Tel: 01227 470283 ESTABLISHED 30 YEARS. OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

NATURE

Thousands add name to a petition calling for tough regulations to protect our seas

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

PRESSURE is mounting on the Government to bring in more protection for our coastal habitats with a 250,000-strong petition handed in to Westminster.

It follows a decision last year to reduce the number of proposed designated Marine Conservation Zones from 11 to four in Kent.

Those four are; the Medway Estuary, Thanet coast, Hythe Bay and Folkestone Pomerania.

But others – including the at-risk Swale Estuary, Thames Estuary, Dover to Deal, and Dover to Folkestone coastline – have been discarded from the list, despite wildlife experts insisting they need protection due to the important habitats and species they boast, such as chalk reefs, fish nursery grounds, rossworm reefs, mussel beds, seals and seahorses.

Kent's quartet are among the 31 selected nationwide as proposed protected zones. This is far fewer than the initial 127 zones judged as at-risk by government advisors at Natural England.

However, the Government says it has "every intention" of designating these sites eventually.

The Wildlife Trust said it was disappointed at the decision to cut the number by so much and launched a petition to highlight public support for greater marine protection.

SAFEGUARDING DIVERSITY AROUND COUNTY'S COAST

MARINE Conservation Zones will receive extra protection of important habitats and species.

The special designation will protect them from the most damaging activities, such as trawling and dredging, while at the same time allowing sustainable activity to continue, including fishing and recreation.

The public consultation on MCZs closes on Sunday, March 31.

Some 250,000 signatures were collected, of which several thousand were from Kent.

The county's branch of the Wildlife Trust backed the move and admitted it was "bitterly disappointed" the full 11 recommended were not included on the Government's consultation list.

Marine policy officer Bryony Chapman said: "We are encouraging members of the public to respond to the Government's consultation and help ensure the 31 sites the Government have selected are just the start. We must ensure the remaining sites are not forgotten, and that we do achieve a meaningful network of sites that will restore health to our marine wildlife."

Kent Wildlife Trust has demanded the Government set a "clear timetable" for the rest of the network to be designated with protection.

"The Government's list leaves seven sites unprotected around Kent: Thames Estuary, Swale Estuary, Goodwin Sands, Dover to Deal, Dover to Folkestone, Offshore Foreland and Kentish Knock," said a trust spokesman.

"These sites are home to important habitats and species, including fish nursery grounds, mussel beds, seals and seahorses."

The trust demanded proper protection of sites as soon as they are designated, including banning bottom-trawling and dredging in those areas.

The Wildlife Trust's president, Simon King, said he was heartened to hear the Government confirm it intends to designate the full 127 eventually.

But he stressed the urgency in getting more sites protected.

"We understand that resources don't allow this to happen in the first year – nonetheless the pressure is on," he said.

"Time is of the essence. With every passing week, month, year, we are at risk of losing more of this precious resource."

MTW Healthcare
The Wells Suite

Line and wrinkle reduction procedures available at The Wells Suite

Whether from environmental damage, such as smoking or sun, or just a natural side-effect of ageing, our faces are prone to showing lines and wrinkles.

There are many ways to treat lines and wrinkles. To establish which treatment is right for you, The Wells Suite now offers regular clinics with Consultant Plastic Surgeon Mr Brent Tanner MA (Cantab) FRCS every Thursday evening.

For a free, no obligation consultation, please call 01892 635888.

For further information on our line and wrinkle reduction treatments, please visit **www.thewellssuite.co.uk**

Secure your future with a Haulfryn Residential Park Home

MOVE WITHIN A MONTH

with our part-exchange scheme on your existing property

Free valuation available

CALL FOR DETAILS 08433 202950

No break-down in chain once price is approved • No estate agency fees

Brand new homes at 3 stunning parks in Kent from £75,000

Beckenham Park in Rainham

Home of your choice

30' x 10'

1 Small double bedroom

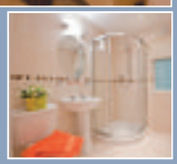
Move within a month with our part exchange scheme

- Kitchen, bathroom & lounge
- Fully furnished
- Central heating
- Double glazing

Limited number of second-hand twin units available

Longbeech Park in Charing

Brand New Stately Tredegar



42' x 12'

2 Bedrooms

Move within a month with our part exchange scheme

- Fully furnished
- Double glazing
- Open plan living space
- White goods included
- Central heating
- Skylights to lounge
- Private location
- Part exchange available

Willow Tree Farm in Hythe

Stately Goodwood Special

40' x 20'

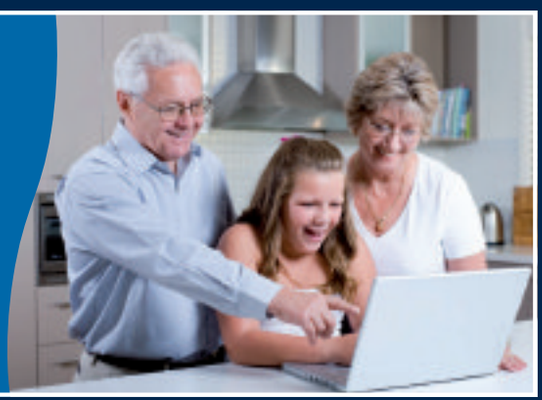
2 Bedrooms

Move within a month with our part exchange scheme

- Fully furnished
- Insulated loft
- Open plan living area
- Integrated white goods
- Central heating
- Double glazing
- Garage & driveway
- Part exchange available

Why Choose Park Home Living?

- Independent living
- Friendly communities
- Modern homes
- Attractive surroundings
- Safe and secure environment
- Less maintenance and lower costs
- Haulfryn Part Exchange Scheme
- Finance available



TRY THE PARK HOME EXPERIENCE

in one of our homes for a few days!

Ask for more details

For more information or to receive a Residential Park Living Pack

Call: **08433 202950** See more availability at: **www.haulfrynresidential.co.uk**

HAULFRYN GROUP EST. 1935

THE FIREPLACE

A FAMILY RUN BUSINESS

*Wood & Multi Fuel Stoves * Marble, Wood & Stone Fire Surrounds
* Bespoke Fire Surrounds * Gas & Electric Fires * Chimney Lining
* Full Installation Service * Gas Fire & Boiler Servicing

THE FIREPLACE

Visit Our Showroom
2 Castle Court, Castle Road,
Eurolink Industrial Estate
Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 3TD
Tel/Fax: 01795 599234 - www.the-fireplace.net
Opening Times: Monday-Friday 9-4, Saturday 10-4

CRIME

Police follow new leads in 20-year-old murder investigation as friends stage memorial walk

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

MORE than 250 people marked the 20th anniversary of one of Kent's most notorious unsolved murder cases last week – sparking a flurry of potential new leads to police.

Schoolgirl Claire Tiltman was brutally stabbed as she walked down an alleyway near her home in Greenhithe on January 18, 1993.

And to mark the date, her friends staged an emotional candlelit walk tracing her last steps to keep her memory alive and to remind people the hunt is still on to find her killer.

Most significantly, it lead to around a dozen phone calls to investigators.

The schoolgirl's parents Lin and Cliff have both since passed away without ever seeing justice for their only child.

The man currently in charge of the investigation, Detective Superintendent Rob Vinson said: "The candlelit walk went very well and was well attended, with about 250 people present.

"The publicity from the event resulted in about a dozen calls to police, all of which are being examined."

A group of her school friends, Emma Edwards, Nichola Medhurst and Lisa Gribbin, got together and set up a page on online social networking website Facebook to organise the walk in the hope it would stir up old memories and lead to someone coming forward with a vital piece of new evidence.

The Dartford Grammar School pupil, known to her friends as Tilt, was stabbed more than 40 times, four days after her 16th birthday.

The route of the walk followed those last steps and ended with a service at St Mary the Virgin church in Stone.

Local vicar Rev Kenneth Clark conducted the service and told this paper afterwards: "We remember Claire as she was.

"We sang the school hymn Praise My Soul The King of Heaven, and I read a poem from a Robert Frost book called The Outsiders.

"The poem was Nothing Gold Can Stay and was one that Claire and her friends were studying at school.

"I just hope this all helped jog someone's memory and they come forward with a key to solving this case."

Ch Supt Neil Jerome was a PC in the area at the time Claire was murdered. He said: "Claire's parents have gone to their graves not knowing who killed their daughter.

"There must be witnesses who haven't yet come forward."

Also on the walk were Dartford MP Gareth Johnson, local mayor Ann Allen, and Kent Police and Crime Commissioner Ann Barnes.

ON THE HUNT FOR THE KILLER

The death of Claire Tiltman and the hunt for her killer has remained a thorn in the side of Kent Police for two decades – but officers insist they will not give up.

In the years since the tragedy, more than 1,700 statements have been taken and 1,000 pieces of evidence probed. It remains hoped a breakthrough in forensics could still help bring the guilty party to justice.

Some seven suspects have been in the frame for the killing – including those convicted of some other high profile murders, such as Robert Napper, who was the killer of Rachel Nickell on Wimbledon Common in July 1992 and also of Samanatha Bissett in November 1993.

Anyone with information is urged to call the incident room on 01634 884010 or contact Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111.

UNSOLVED: Claire Tiltman was killed in 1993

Sale Now On

- Fantastic display of lighting
- Over 2,500 stocked products
- Large showrooms
  Tonbridge 6,000 Sq ft,
  Tunbridge Wells 5,000 Sq ft
- Free parking, Open 7 days per week
- Confident, trained & helpful staff

Tonbridge Lighting Centre
Edwards Electrical
Vale Road Industrial Estate
TN9 1SW 01732 363583
next to Tonbridge Fire Station

Tunbridge Wells Lighting Centre
Edwards Electrical
North Farm Industrial Estate
TN2 3BF 01892 527647
near Topps Tiles

Lighting Centre

FURNITURE WAREHOUSE

MASSIVE STOCK CLEARANCE

BIG DISCOUNTS FOR CASH AND CARRY

Digby's Furniture

www.digbysfurniture.co.uk

T: 01634 713408 • Monday – Saturday 8am-4pm

1 Gill Court, Chaucer Close, Medway City Estate, Medway ME2 4NR *(next to Monkey Bizz)*

BOOKS

Marvel at the international cult hero who's a creative superman

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

THE name of Dan Abnett may not mean a lot to you. But for many millions around the world he is rapidly assuming cult celebrity status.

He has sold more than three million books in over a dozen languages and is a multiple New York Times best-selling novelist.

What's more, he has created comic storylines for some of the world's most famous superheroes such as Superman, Batman and Iron Man, written books for the likes of Doctor Who and Torchwood, and when the latest movie based on characters created by Marvel hits the big screen later this year, it will based upon his work.

In short, Dan Abnett, 47, is a big deal in the world of fantasy and science fiction.

Today, he can tour the world attending conventions where fans will jet thousands of miles just to meet him – and him in particular – to get their book signed.

So it's little wonder then, as he strolls the streets of the Kent town he grew up in, and 15 years ago returned to live in with his wife and two daughters, he's started getting recognised.

"Early on, when I was first cutting my teeth with the franchises, they had no idea who I was," the author explains, from his Maidstone home. "Now people will seek me out because they enjoy my books. At some conventions, people will queue for four hours with a suitcase of every book I've ever written, asking me to sign them all.

"And over the last two or three years, I've started getting recognised. I will be out in Maidstone and they'll spot me. Or people strike up a conversation with me. It is the weirdest thing."

But Mr Abnett works in a slightly bizarre world.

In addition to his scriptwriting work for comic giants such as Marvel, DC and 2000AD, he writes books for the likes of Doctor Who, is currently working on a comic for Battlestar Galatica, and has sold vast quantities of books based on the popular Warhammer table-top game.

He admits he inhabits a world of nerds and geeks ("I consider myself to be both" he says.).

"I think I'm one of them," he says of his audience. "If I wasn't writing it I would be reading it. So I identify with that enthusiasm and I think I bring that to my writing. I write what I hope I would read if I was my target audience. I hope that enthusiasm comes across."

But what of the famously rabid fan bases who can be so vocal if they feel the direction of their hero has taken a wrong turn?

"You do have to be quite thick skinned," the author says, "because even if you do something well and 95 per cent of your audience enjoy what you have written, there will always on the internet be an enclave of people who spend their time picking holes in it."

Picture: JAMES K BARNETT

GRAPHIC GENIUS: Dan Abnett, left, has written and drawn a number of comic book heroes

The son of two art teachers, he discovered his love of superhero comics when he was nine, and combined his love of writing and drawing to create his own comics.

After attending school in Maidstone and Rochester he went to Oxford University. He landed a job in the Marvel UK office, where he scripted storylines for the likes of the Ghostbusters, Care Bears and Thomas the Tank Engine franchises. Honing his skills, he began a career path which would see him create storylines for some of the biggest names in the industry – Batman, Superman, Wonder Woman, Iron Man, Judge Dread and X Men. To name but a few.

"In the 1990s I started working for the big American comic publishers and the likes of 2000AD. I started picking up novels on commission and since then I tend to write novels in the morning and comic scripts in the afternoon."

He created Sinister Dexter for 2000AD and is now working on "cosmic superhero" book The Hypernaturals, and is soon to embark on writing scripts for Superman's latest adventures.

Then there's the small issue of promoting his first children's novel – Dragon Frontier (see box).

While Mr Abnett may not be a name familiar with most right now, that may not be the case for much longer.

After the huge success of the Avengers movie, Marvel's next big screen outing is set to be Guardians of the Galaxy – with the movie based on a comic he wrote alongside regular writing partner Andy Lanning.

"We're not involved in the film – but it is based on our line-up," he explains. "It will be very exciting to see what they do to it."

DRAGON FRONTIER

Published by Puffin, Dragon Frontier is the first of a trilogy aimed at the younger audience, and one which Mr Abnett came face-to-face with this week on a whistle-stop tour of schools across the south east.

The action adventure book, aimed at readers aged nine up, is his first for children.

"It's a proper old school adventure," he said. "I have been lucky having worked in comics and sci-fi and they come with a pre-built fan base who are immensely enthusiastic about this stuff. To have that interaction is terrific. But this is for an audience who come with no expectations other than it is for their age group – so there will be a purity of fan base which will be very interesting to see."

The book has been critically well received and is available in paperback, priced at £6.99.

Why I hope you never have to ring this number: 01795 477505

Hi, I'm Richard Ratcliffe and usually people ring me when their marriage has broken down; or they are in dispute with a neighbour; or they have had an injury at work; or someone has died.

Matrimonial, litigation, personal injury, commercial law, conveyancing and probate. I do it. It's my job - but I never forget that for you it could be the most important moment in your life, that moment when you pick up the phone to ring.

RATCLIFFES Solicitors
Tel: 01795 477505
e-mail: office@ratcliffes.org
www.ratcliffessolicitors.co.uk
22 Park Road, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1DR

LOCHS & GLENS HOLIDAYS

Ceilidh Break

Loch Awe Hotel
Argyllshire STB ★★★

A 7 day coach holiday staying at our Loch Awe Hotel. There will be an excursion everyday including Oban, Isles of Mull & Iona, Dunoon, Tighnabruaich, Cruise on Loch Lomond, Fort William, Glencoe & Rannoch Moor.

All for just £309 per person

Your special coach departs Tuesday 30th April

Tour includes:
6 Nights Half Board
Nightly Entertainment
All Excursions
Pickup from Margate, Birchington, Canterbury, Sittingbourne

01389 713713 www.lochs.com
Holidays are fully bonded.
School Road, Gartocharn, G83 8RW

LOCAL FIREPLACE & APPLIANCE SHOWROOM

A FAMILY RUN BUSINESS ESTABLISHED IN RAINHAM FOR OVER 15YRS

ALL YOUR GAS APPLIANCE NEEDS UNDER ONE ROOF

Supply, Install and service Boilers & Central Heating systems
Fires Gas & Electric • Water heaters • Wall heaters • Cookers Gas & Electric

Supply and install Wood, Marble & Stone Fireplaces fully bespoke if required

Free surveys for installation • Landlord certificates • Natural Gas & LPG
Huge range of high efficiency fires made in the UK with a 5yr warranty
All engineers Gas safe registered • Medway fair trader member

BDL GAS SERVICES
01634 232048
9 High Street, Rainham, Kent, ME8 7HX www.bdlgasservices.co.uk

OPINION

Balance the scales of justice

Prosecutors should have the same right to appeal as criminals if the justice system is to be truly fair, insits Dartford MP **Gareth Johnson**

ON Tuesday, I presented my Ten Minute Rule Bill (the Unduly Lenient Sentences (Right of Appeal) Bill) to the House.

The purpose of the bill is to allow the prosecution to refer any sentence received by a defendant for any case, in any court, for consideration for an appeal.

Currently, the prosecution is unable to appeal any sentence imposed at the magistrates court or youth court. It can appeal sentences imposed at the crown court, but only those for the most serious of offences. The defence, however, can apply to appeal any sentence, for any offence, in any court.

For example, in a youth court, magistrates have powers to sentence up to two years' youth detention and so can deal with more serious offences such as rape.

It is commonplace for sexual assaults to remain in the youth court. It is also commonplace for robberies, offences against children and supplying drugs to remain there.

Yet there is no power for the prosecution to appeal if an unduly lenient sentence is imposed in any of these cases.

What message does a lenient sentence send to the victim of crime when that victim is a child or young person? Or indeed to a young offender "who gets away lightly"?

If there is no recourse for the prosecution to appeal a lenient sentence given to a person in a youth court, what does it say to the victim about the fairness of the system; a system we want our children and young people to grow up to respect.

In addition, sentences cannot be appealed when given for the following offences; affray, violent disorder, theft, burglary (including dwellings), fraud, deception, assault (actual bodily harm), possession of drugs, witness intimidation, dangerous driving, causing death by careless driving, possession of a knife and possession of an offensive weapon.

Also sentences for offences in relation to the possession of and distribution of child pornography cannot currently be appealed by the prosecution.

The fact that the defence can appeal against any sentence imposed for these offences, yet the prosecution cannot, is simply not right and it inherently favours the rights of the offender over the rights of the victim.

It also allows the courts, when dealing with certain offences, to be as lenient as they like without redress, yet subject to appeal if they are robust. The system should exist to protect victims and their families, not penalise them.

It is the Attorney General's office that deals with referrals from prosecuting authorities (and often members of the public) over appeals. In 2010,

This is an insult to victims of crime and clearly unjust

despite a large number of requests they were unable to consider one such case for appeal. The case, where three males avoided prison sentences for the horrifically degrading group assault of a 17-year-old autistic boy could not be appealed because the convictions were for actual bodily harm, which is not in the list of offences open to prosecution appeal. This is an insult to victims of crime and quite clearly unjust.

This is exactly why I presented my Ten Minute Rule Bill to the House of Commons.

This bill would level the playing field and mean that a victim had the same rights as a defendant. Surely that is what a balanced, fair, judicial system is all about?

■ **The bill has already gathered support from a number of MPs, including Canterbury's Julian Brazier and Sittingbourne and Sheppey MP Gordon Henderson.**

KOS COMMENT

Don't turn your back on our elderly population

EVERY winter, while most of us are getting excited about the prospect of snow, hundreds of elderly people in Kent are suffering in silence behind closed doors, hoping to just make it through the day.

In this day and age, the fact that around 1,000 older people die during the colder months in Kent is so shocking it could be unbelievable. But the tragedy is real; this is happening on our own doorstep, in the 21st century.

But we can help make a difference. Whether that's taking 10 minutes to knock on an elderly neighbour's door, or even popping in to make them a cup of tea and have a chat. We mustn't turn our backs on our elderly population; we can all help make a real difference.

No more pongs, please

KENT really bears the brunt when it comes to pungent smells.

Last summer we had the unpleasant stench of manure and now the French - 200-odd miles away – are infecting our nasal passages with leaking gas.

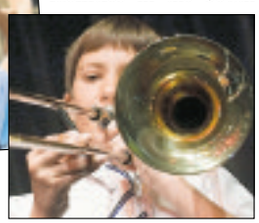
As the Garden of England, surely it's time we had something less offensive.

Advertiser's Announcement

A chance to win a Year 8 scholarship to King's Rochester

King's Rochester is a very special place. It occupies a majestic site between Rochester's ancient castle and its cathedral overlooking the River Medway but its imposing and ancient exterior belies a warmth rarely found in a school whose traditions go back over 1400 years.

Founded in 604, King's has evolved into an outstanding 21st century school for 3 to 18 year old boys and girls with excellent facilities at all levels. The School has also just acquired the former Stirling Sports Centre on Maidstone Road which, after a half million pound refurbishment, will provide King's pupils - and the local community who share it - with some of the best sporting facilities in the South East. Academic standards are high - but King's is a school with a broad ability intake and we recognise that every child here is unique with talents and strengths which may extend far beyond the classroom. Principal, Jeremy Walker is proud that the School's strapline, "A Community that enables individuals to flourish", is central to everything it does.



Now this highly successful school is offering a rare chance for talented pupils to join King's in Year 8 in September 2013 due to the creation of a range of Academic, Sports and Music Scholarships.

Details are available from Registrar, Lynne Davies on 01634 888590 or by email on admissions@kings-rochester.co.uk.

Applications close on Monday 4th February 2013.

www.kings-rochester.co.uk

Next Open Day - Friday 1st March from 9.30am to 12 noon.

Year 8 Scholarships at King's Rochester for September 2013 entry

King's Rochester is delighted to be able to offer a limited number of additional, generous Academic, Sports and Music Scholarships for talented pupils wishing to join Year 8 (12+) in this highly successful School in September 2013

For further details of these financial awards and an Application Form, please contact Registrar, **Lynne Davies** on **01634 888590** or by email on **admissions@kings-rochester.co.uk**

Closing date for applications **Monday 4th February 2013**

Assessments to be held during **w/c 11th February 2013**

www.kings-rochester.co.uk

Feedback

Letters/emails/twitter

IMAGES OF KENT To see your photo printed here, email editorial@kosmedia .co.uk, or post it to Archant KOS Media, Images of Kent, Apple Barn, Hythe Rd, Smeeth, Ashford TN25 6SS. We cannot return prints, and please do not send negatives. Digital images must be no less than 200dpi.

Train firms should help

HAVING just read your article on the saga of the Tunbridge Wells cinema (KOS, last week), it occurred to me that the issue from a development point of view is probably the hidden unknown charges in light of the train tunnel's proximity.

Given the train companies' disregard for their customers as a result of their fare hikes, it wouldn't surprise me that they would hit any developer hard should they cause their diabolical service to run any shabbier than it currently does, if services get disrupted.

Perhaps the mega profits the company are presumably making could go to develop some investment into the tunnel to avert any potential future building issues on the site? Or, just like the wrong type of snow on the tracks, is that too difficult to manage?

Tim McCabe, by email

Will we see an improvement?

I READ a good article in your paper regarding station improvements (KoS 13/01).

It only notes two stations in Kent; the remainder seem to be in London under Boris' fiefdom, and soon to be subject to his attempts to control.

By the way, all the platforms can take a ten-car train. How long will it take to build carriages for 12-car trains?

As so few trains on the main lines in Kent have run to their capability since the 1986 transfer to the Hastings line, will we still be standing room only on afternoon trains home for for the next 20 years?

Chris Hughes, Rainham

Come out for marriages

SINCE a conversation I once had with Thanet MP Laura Sandys, I have been fairly sure she will vote in favour of equal marriage.

This is why I was quite surprised to read in the local press, that she has decided not to make her position known until the last minute.

Could it be that she has changed her mind?

Other Kent MPs, like Canterbury's Julian Brazier, for example, who is known for his heterocentric attitude, have been quite vocal about the subject since day one.

As a progressive politician, I urge Laura Sandys to stay on the right side of history, by supporting full equality in civil marriage and civil partnership law, and to support the legalisation of same sex civil marriages, opposite sex civil partnerships and religious same sex marriages by clergy who wish to conduct them.

In addition, please ensure civil partnerships are retained for gay and straight couples who want an alternative to marriage, and that married transgender people, should not be required to divorce their spouse before they receive a gender recognition certificate.

Cllr John Worrow, Birchington

Warming is happening

RATHER modestly, for someone who regularly airs his views in the letters page of this newspaper, Terry Hudson claims no expertise (Letters, last week), but he continues in his defence to claim that he 'can read' and has the 'power of reason'.

However, by apparently concluding that 'global warming' has not happened, he clearly demonstrates that his reading has been selective and his reasoning is flawed.

That he continues by implying that concern about environmental change and the role of the motorcar is motivated by financial gain suggests his judgment is equally suspect.

The sums spent on environmental research are dwarfed by the money expended by 'big oil' and its friends, with its origins often deliberately obscured, to counter scientific findings.

The myth that there has been no warming for 16 years – to which Mr Hudson seems to be referring – has long since been exploded by scientists. A statistical examination of the figures is clear – the climate is warming.

Doubtless Mr Hudson will come back with superficially convincing figures cherry picked from the data, but be warned that the sources he relies upon have been very selective and have ignored clear warnings that their methodology is flawed.

One often neglected element in the evidence that our climate has warmed is the study of phenology – this, put simply, is a study of when flowers bloom and insects emerge.

The vast bulk of the data, collected over generations by unpaid enthusiasts, was obtained long before global warming was an issue. This data clearly shows evidence of warming in recent years and that, on average, spring in the UK now begins 11 days earlier than 30 years ago.

If Mr Hudson can find evidence of those who carried out this research enjoying 'lucrative careers', I would be very much surprised.

Hopefully, armed with my modest reading list and his self proclaimed ability to reason, Mr Hudson will reconsider his position,

John Cantelo, Canterbury

Europe union is good for us

BRITAIN has always stood and fought for our interests and principles in Europe.

We have been the driving force behind the single market, which created 3.5 million jobs and made the average British household £3,300 better off per year. We've also led the way on foreign policy and global trade, making Europe a force for peace and prosperity.

Finally, we have been at the forefront of efforts to establish police cooperation across Europe, protecting British citizens from organised criminals and terrorists.

This was not achieved through threatening our neighbours with blackmail, but through building alliances, winning the argument, and pushing for EU-wide reform.

David Cameron wants to hold EU members to ransom in a bid to repeal the social and employment laws which give us minimum standards for annual holidays, maternity leave and working hours.

Not only is there no way other EU countries will allow the UK to undercut the rest of Europe, but this clearly would not be in the interests of British citizens.

Instead, we need ambitious reform, cutting red tape for small businesses, expanding trade with emerging economies, and ensuring Europe remains competitive in the 21st century.

The best way to achieve this is by working with our European allies, not by alienating them.

Dr Alan Bullion, Tunbridge Wells

ARCHANT } KOS MEDIA ...WOULD LIKE TO HEAR YOUR VIEWS

Write to: KOS Feedback Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford TN25 6SS

Email: editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

Online: www.kentnews.co.uk

Twitter: @kosmedia

Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include your daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

Publisher: Simon Irwin
Editor: Chris Britcher
Address: Apple Barn, Smeeth, Kent TN25 6SS
Editorial: Telephone 01303 817100; Fax 01303 817002; Email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk
Advertising: Telephone 01303 817150; Fax 01303 817001; Email sales@kosmedia.co.uk

ARCHANT } KOS MEDIA
© 2011 Archant KOS Media
Printed by Newsfax

Chalkwell and Warner Leisure Hotels
JUST FOR GROWN-UPS

CHALKWELL COACHES AND WARNER LEISURE HOTELS WORKING TOGETHER IN 2013. THE PERFECT HOLIDAY COMBINATION

AA Littlecote House Hotel, Berkshire, 4* 1520 Grade 1 listed property

15 April 2013,
4 nights half board
Just look at what's included:

ONLY £375pp

- FREE Daytime excursion to Bath
- Stylish accommodation in 113 acres of landscaped gardens and rolling parkland
- Delicious breakfast and 3 course evening meal with choice of carvery
- Fantastic Live entertainment programme day and night
- Range of daytime activities
- Use of sports and leisure facilities, snooker, table tennis and gym
- Indoor heated pool, sauna and bubblepool
- Do you Warner Dance – "Dance workshops"

STOP PRESS NEW YEAR BOOKING OFFER

First 3 bookings will receive either a FREE room upgrade to Signature room or if single room supplement waivered

Single room supplement normally applied £120 pp, Saving on free upgrade equal to £160 per room.

Tel 01795 423982 and quote ARC26 or look at our website www.chalkwell.co.uk

KITCHENS
with you in mind
MBK Est 1987 Design Studio

Design, Supply & Supervised Government approved installation

LARGE SHOWROOMS AT THE OAST, CLOCK HOUSE FARM, HEATH ROAD, COXHEATH, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 4PB

Wealden company operating in and around the Maidstone area

Call for an appointment: 01622 619875 www.m-b-k.co.uk

KENT REMEMBERED

Beheaded king honoured with celebration of 17th century music and words

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

THIS weekend a commemoration takes place of the last British monarch to be executed.

Tunbridge Wells is one of the few places in the country with a church dedicated to King Charles I.

And on Saturday and Sunday the town marks the anniversary of the king's gruesome death at the church of King Charles the Martyr; one of the town's most historic buildings.

King Charles I was beheaded in Whitehall on January 30, 1649, having been charged with high treason.

The death of the king followed the English Civil War which saw the Royalist forces – known as Cavaliers – pitted against the Roundheads of Oliver Cromwell and his Parliamentarian supporters.

The church was built in the years following the restoration of the monarchy, when Charles II returned to take the throne. It was dedicated to the dead king as a mark of respect.

A year before King Charles I's death, Kent saw a major battle between the opposing forces. The Kentish Royalists had 10,000 men in the field just outside Maidstone under the Earl of Norwich, who dispersed his forces to hold Rochester, Dover and Gravesend as well as the county town.

IN MEMORY: Etrusca will perform at the event to honour the beheaded King Charles I

But many were not trained soldiers and faced a veteran force under Sir Thomas Fairfax, an excellent military commander. His troops crossed the River Medway and attacked Maidstone in the face of a terrible downpour of rain.

The Roundheads took streets in fierce hand-to-hand fighting before the present day Gabriel's Hill saw the last stand during a massive thunderstorm.

The battle was a key part of the final months of the conflict which ended in victory for Parliament – and its Puritans who frowned on most forms of music and entertainment.

At the start of the 17th century, the waters at Tunbridge Wells were becoming popular with visitors who wanted to improve their health.

But the victors of the conflict took a dim view to such frivolous activity – hence Tunbridge Wells' celebration of the return of the Stuart royal dynasty.

This year's King Charles Festival weekend, (January 26-27) provides the opportunity to explore both the literature and music of the 17th century, with the annual public lecture and a Sunday afternoon concert.

Comfortable Words: A Lecture on the Language of the Book of Common Prayer will take place at the church on Saturday, at 2.30pm in London Road. It will be conducted by Dr Helen Wilcox, professor of English at Bangor University.

Following the recent 350th anniversary of the prayerbook's first publication in 1662, she will be exploring the rich history, language and legacy of this influential book, highlighting its literary qualities, and exploring its presence in literature and wider culture. It was widely used at the time of King Charles' death. Entry is free, and an original 1662 edition of the book will be on show.

Sunday will see a musical event called Wed Your Divine Sounds; featuring lute renditions of songs from the period at the same venue, starting at 3pm. The programme features Giovanni Carissimi's passionate cantata The Lament of Mary Stuart. The concert is presented by Etrusca: Alessandra Testai, soprano, and Robin Jeffrey, lutes. Tickets are £12, or £10 in advance.

To book email kcmconcerts@blueyonder.co.uk or alternatively visit Hall's bookshop.

Studying stand-up? Really, it's not a joke!

SEE PAGE 29

NAME GAME

Adam takes to the streets for Mini challenge

SEE PAGE 43

Kent Weekend

Seeing is believing

Meet the fan who will convince you that the King of Pop lives

SEE PAGE 30

Thinking of going private?

At Spire Alexandra Hospital we offer a wide range of specialist services including:

- General Surgery
- Orthopaedics
- Opthalmology
- Dermatology
- Cosmetic Surgery
- Gynaecology
- Urology
- Paediatrics
- ENT
- Rapid Access Breast Clinic
- Rapid Access Chest Pain Clinic
- Radiology
- Physiotherapy/Sports injury
- Healthy Heart Clinic

Spire
Alexandra Hospital

For further information please call
01634 662 866
www.spirealexandra.com

Looking after you.

Spire Alexandra Hospital, Impton Lane, Walderslade, Kent ME5 9PG

THE INTERVIEW

Chatback Comedy

The funny plan is still on course

Joe Bill learns about the duo who put their studies in stand-up to good use

IT has been on the end of both curt criticism and the odd disapproving tut in the past, but University of Kent's stand-up comedy teaching module is having the last laugh.

Two graduates of the drama and theatre studies course are looking to take the comedy world by storm, having bagged an Edinburgh star for their third anniversary special.

Sam Gardner, who studied the MA stand-up comedy module, and Lucy Danser, who studied the creative producing for theatre module, run an up-and-coming comedy club out of The Parrot pub in Canterbury.

The pair will celebrate their third year in charge of Chatback Comedy this month after going full circle and securing a performance from Norwegian comedian Daniel Simonsen.

The performer, who won the Best Newcomer Award at the 2012 Edinburgh Festival, also happens to be the headliner from the very first Chatback Comedy show back in 2010.

Lucy, 25, said: "Myself and Sam were housemates at university and I'd always loved and been involved with the stand-up comedy scene in London and at the Edinburgh Festival.

"Sam was offered the opportunity to hold a one-off comedy night at The Parrot, where he worked, so we decided we'd pool our skills and knowledge and do it together.

"It was a great success, completely sold out and we even had to turn people away.

"The Parrot agreed we could hold it as a regular monthly event and we've been doing so for three years. The pub has actually changed hands twice in that time, but we've stayed."

The pair were schooled by Kent tutor Dr Oliver Double, himself a former stand-up and a prolific comedy-writer, and it was his course that inspired the pair to create the club.

"We opened the club because, despite the fact there was the country's only stand-up comedy course right here in Canterbury, there was nowhere these acts could go and perform alongside [professional] acts working the circuit, on the next level up from them.

"They could go to see big names in London and there was their own [student] night Monkeyshine run by Dr Double, but nothing in the middle, so we opened Chatback."

APPEALING: Lucy Danser and Sam Gardner have attracted the likes of Daniel Simonsen to the club

Lucy and Sam have managed to mix students with professional stand-up comedians at their nights by bringing in a few big names but also allowing open-mic slots for local comics or comedy students to get a five-minute set.

"It's been great for new acts to meet professional comedians, to get tips and feedback on their material and experience performing in a different style of club.

"We have a very loyal audience and we've seen it grow and change over the years. Early on we had a lot more friends and students. Nowadays we have people from all over and from Canterbury, which is wonderful."

Chatback has attracted the likes of TV regular Milton Jones, Britain's Got Talent star Kev Orkian and the face of Viva TV, Eric Lampaert.

"We're based on the London-style comedy club. The atmosphere is buzzy, the acts are new, exciting and often on the cusp of becoming more widely known on television shows.

"The comedians mingle with the audience and there is always a friendly, chatty, happy feel. The Parrot is unique and comedians love to play gigs there because it's so friendly."

Lucy, who is also a trained actress, believes the Canterbury comedy scene has improved dramatically since they started on Chatback.

"The Parrot is our resident club, but over the years we've held gigs in Whitstable, on the UKC campus and further afield. We've definitely noticed a big surge in comedy in Canterbury over the past few years. Many pubs have begun holding open-mic nights, too, which is great because there are lots more places to try out material for new comics."

Chatback has also gone into the Gulbenkian theatre on the university campus to put on children's comedy shows and workshops.

Changes are afoot for the young Chatback team, with one half of the duo looking to follow in the footsteps of his famous comedy tutor.

"At the end of this current season Sam will be leaving the company to train to become an English and drama teacher," said Lucy.

"We haven't ruled out him returning after he's finished and is super-qualified, but for the next couple of years I'll be running the company along with some of the existing members of the team."

And the crew have a few ideas of their own.

"Our plans are to continue The Parrot gigs and the kids' comedy at the Gulbenkian but to also open a club in London and to tour with our new format show Stand Up & Slam! – a fusion between performance poetry and stand-up comedy. It's awesome!

"There are a couple more ideas still under wraps, but we have big plans."

• **Visit www.chatbackcomedy.com for information on forthcoming shows.**

Here is the oast with the most

A BED-and-breakfast in Kent has been voted among the top 15 in the world.

The Oast at Wittersham, above, was placed at number 14 in the top B&B list, put together by the world's largest interactive travel website, TripAdvisor.

Dubbed the Oscars of the hotel world, the Traveller's Choice Awards also saw The Oast, near Romney Marsh, make the top five in the UK's B&B list as well as eighth in the European category.

Owners Wendy and Andy Thomas said: "We are so honoured to be recognised. We take great pride in trying to redefine the bed-and-breakfast experience for our guests and thank them for taking the time to review our business and home in such a positive way."

The top-performing B&B in the UK was the Athole Guest House in Bath, which also came second in the world's top 15.

Visit www.theoastinwittersham.co.uk/ to learn more about the bed-and-breakfast.

Tribute to the King of Pop will be a thriller

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

MICHAEL Jackson is remembered as one of the most influential artists of all time. His career spanned four decades and he was continually at the forefront of popular music.

Now the King of Pop's best work is remembered through Jackson Live In Concert by the long-time fan and talented performer known only as Ben.

The show, which comes to Margate's Winter Gardens, looks to re-create the Michael Jackson experience with a rendition of all his favourite songs.

Ben said: "From as far into my childhood as I can remember, I have been obsessed with Michael Jackson. Everything about the King of Pop mesmerised and enchanted me.

"I used to spend hours poring over album covers, photographs, interviews, videos and anything I could find that was about Michael.

"Even my 17th birthday party was Michael Jackson-themed. I always loved to dance and began copying Michael's signature moves as I dreamt of being a performer just like him."

Ben's portrayal of Jackson has been described as "the most vocally and visually accurate tribute to the King of Pop to have ever toured UK theatres".

The performer is joined on the stage by his live band and dancers who work their way through all of MJ's hits, including Thriller, Beat It and Billie Jean.

From his online campaign it is clear to see Ben's got the look, the moonwalk and the voice, not to mention the costume and signature dance moves.

Jackson Live In Concert comes to the Winter Gardens in Margate on Friday, February 15. Tickets are priced at £18 for adults and £14 for children.

Phone the box office on 01843 292795 or visit www.margatewintergardens.co.uk for more information.

Mule never guess new Carmen star

THE opera Carmen has been graced with classical theatre stars from across the globe for more than 100 years.

But now the show is ready to welcome a new addition to the cast – Violet the donkey.

Director Ellen Kent has brought Violet into the touring production to tread the boards alongside Moldovan National Philharmonic Orchestra when it comes to Dartford's Orchard theatre in February.

The award-winning opera-producer spent her teenage years in Spain and has a rich store of experiences to draw on as she brings in the donkey from its home in Crawley.

Violet, a 10hh (hands high) light grey, is no stranger to the limelight, having appeared in Nativity and Palm Sunday parades.

A collection on the night will raise money for the Donkey Breed Society, with a different donkey used in every tour location.

Tickets cost £25.50-£33.50; visit www.orchardtheatre.co.uk or phone 01322 220000 for further details.

Live the dream at BEAUTIFUL

Bradgate Park

Experience the difference

Brand new including luxury holiday twins available

This quiet, family-run park is walking distance from Westwood Cross shopping centre and just 2 miles from Broadstairs.

Facilities include heated indoor pool, gym, launderette and bar/restaurant

Not suitable for children.

Call
01843 823207
or
07815 823207
www.bradgatepark.co.uk

NOW OPEN ALL YEAR!

THE VIEW GUEST HOUSE MARGATE

Looking for somewhere to stay?

The View Guest House, with it's Art Deco Style exterior and contemporary interior, is the perfect place to stay on the East Kent Coast.

The guest house is ideally located within easy reach of Margate's Old Town where you will find the newly opened dynamic Turner Contemporary. The area is also well known for its many art galleries and quirky bars and restaurants.

Upon your arrival you will be greeted by your host who will show you around the beautifully finished interior, which you are free to enjoy and relax in for the duration of your stay. Your bags will be carried to your room where you will be able to unwind with complimentary refreshments and chocolates.

The guest house is also the perfect location for entertaining. A number of packages are available for dinner parties and private functions

It is our aim that our guests enjoy a restful stay within a casual, relaxed ambience mixed with a dash of luxury.

Tel: 01843 299878

20 Palm Bay Avenue, Margate CT9 3DQ
www.theviewguesthousemargate.co.uk

Read APP about it

Read Kent's weekend newspapers anytime, anywhere on your iPhone and iPad

Visit the Apple AppStore, search 'Kent News' to download your free App

www.kentnews.co.uk ARCHANT KOS MEDIA

BE PART OF YOUR COMMUNITY

Advertise here

Call 01303 817056

www.kentnews.co.uk

DARTFORD ORCHARD THEATRE

Boogie Nights in Concert
Thu 31 January - Sat 2 February

Totally Tina
Fri 8 February

Rumours of Fleetwood Mac
Sat 9 February

Carmen
Sun 10 February

Circus of Horrors
Mon 11 February

The Soliders
Thu 14 February

Roy Chubby Brown
Fri 15 February

Milkshake! Live
Sat 16 - Sun 17 February

orchardtheatre.co.uk
Ticket Office 01322 220000

Download homes24's iPhone & Android apps for FREE

We have over 4,000* houses and flats for rent across Kent for you to choose from.

LOOK LOCAL FIRST WITH homes24.co.uk
your local property portal

*Source: homes24.co.uk database May 2012

Now in it's 6th Year

Looking for days out, short breaks or leisure activities come along to....

The Travel and LEISURE Show 2013

9 - 10 March - Dover Cruise Terminal 2
11am - 4pm

The Travel & Leisure Show offers the very best in tourism throughout the South East and Northern France.

Competitions, ideas and information at the show will ensure an enjoyable and worthwile day out for all.

Register for free tickets online at
www.thetravelandleisureshow.co.uk

Interested in exhibiting?

Telephone 01303 817083 to be part of The Travel and Leisure show.

DFDS SEAWAYS

National Trust

ENGLISH HERITAGE

Manston Kent's International Airport

bluereef AQUARIUM

ARCHANT } KOS MEDIA

KENT LIFE

Kent on Sunday

FREE ENTRY ▪ FREE PARKING
▪ SEE NEXT WEEK FOR OUR EXCITING COMPETITIONS!

To be included on this page, please email **features@kosmedia.co.uk**

A chain eatery that knows all about the price of fish

RESTAURANT **REVIEW**

The restaurant world is developing a new format. It's out with the big, spacious and grand, and in with the boutique, tailored but simple. The older style still exists, however. Take fish-restaurant chain Loch Fyne, whose venue at Bluewater is your typical chain eatery with wide-open spaces and the ability to seat and serve scores of customers.

It's not always easy to get a feeling of personal service when visiting these sorts of places, but a new menu option and very informative staff did much to change my preconceptions.

We started with a plate of Loch Fyne oysters. We were told that they were brought down from Scotland fresh every morning, as was anything on the menu with the Loch Fyne trademark. Served on ice with the option of red-wine vinaigrette or even a touch of tabasco sauce, they were fresh and clean with no grit.

Next I opted for the pan-fried chilli-and-garlic king prawns. They were pre-shelled and the spicy lemon-oil sauce complemented their fresh, firm texture despite the presentation lacking finesse. The brown bloomer was well received for dipping although it was not as fresh as the fish.

My guest, a chef, went for the trademarked smoked ashet. Again our server pointed out the different strength in tastes for each of the three

types of salmon served on the granite plate. It included a trio of bradan rost (kiln-roasted salmon fillet), kinglas fillet (sashimi style) and traditional smoked salmon.

A very positive nod from my guest and the empty platter said enough of its quality, while the server's knowledge was appreciated.

Having heard about the Fish Your Way option at Loch Fyne, I gave it a try. Guests are encouraged to "choose a fillet from the list below or visit the fish counter to make your choice"; this included wild Scottish hake and gilt-head bream, but after seeing my guest's starter I went for the farmed Scottish salmon.

You then choose how it is cooked, from grilled, steamed or pan-fried, which I chose. The side dishes are also your choice and I went for the battered new potatos and tenderstem broccoli. My chosen sauce was hollandaise.

The salmon was firm in texture but fell away with a push of the fork, perfectly cooked with a clean, meaty flavour. However, the potatoes were not buttery and almost seemed an afterthought, while the hollandaise looked more like butter than sauce, although still rich in flavour.

The chef went for the trademark poached smoked haddock. It was served with colcannon mash, mustard and crème fraîche sauce and topped with a soft poached egg. Again the plate was cleared and words of approval were uttered.

Having eaten so much, we skipped dessert and instead mulled over the boutique style in which the chain store does business. With a couple of beers and the oyster aperitif making three courses, a bill of £62.55 was very reasonable. All in all, it had been a very surprising outing.

Joe Bill

■ **Loch Fyne, West Village Bluewater, Greenhithe DA9 9SE (telephone 01322 623930, email bluewater@lochfyne.net)**

Roastin! Top 50 spot for Three Chimneys

THE Three Chimneys at Biddenden has been named in The Independent's Top 50 Best Sunday Roasts in the country.

The mid-Kent pub was praised for its nod to local suppliers, one of the judges branding it "a long-standing favourite".

Using asparagus from nearby Frogshole Farm, potatoes from Morghen Park in Tenterden and meat from Park Farm in Hawkhurst, the pub makes the majority of its meals from Kentish ingredients.

The pub was the only Kent venue to make the list and one of five from the South East. It claims to "typifiy everything you would expect from a traditional Kentish pub".

Samphire takes Hart from new head chef

THE culinary merry-go-round continues this month with Samphire in Whitstable getting a new leader in the kitchen.

Dave Hart, who previously worked at The Fitzwalter Arms in Goodnestone, will become head chef at the popular seaside venue.

Talking on the Eat Drink Kent website, Hart said: "The food I cook is fiercely seasonal, picking each yearly treat in its prime and cooking it simply along with other ingredients that enhance and complement it.

"Whitstable has a thriving restaurant scene with a real buzz about it and I'm very much looking forward to being a part of it!"

YOUR WEEKEND

Follow us @KOSLeisure #KOSWeekender or http://www.kentnews.co.uk/leisure

To be included on this page, please email features@kosmedia.co.uk

Any Questions? in town

BBC Radio 4's Any Questions? is coming to Medway this spring.

The current-affairs programme, which is presented by Jonathan Dimbleby, is broadcast live on Friday evenings just after 8pm.

The show will be hosted at the St George's Centre, Chatham Maritime, with doors opening from 6.30pm on Friday, March 29.

The radio show is run on TV's Question Time format, with audience members asking questions of a panel on national and international issues of the day.

The event will be ticket-only and Medway Council will be arranging the allocation and distribution of tickets; email communications@medway.gov.uk to find out more.

Artist carves out a show

KINGS HILL is hosting an exhibition featuring the work of one of the country's most highly-regarded artists.

The exhibition, which is in five of the office buildings on the business park near West Malling, features a series of wood-carved sculptures by Robert Koenig.

His work is inspired by his Polish heritage and he is noted for his greater-than-lifesize sculptures, many of which have been on display in galleries such as the RIBA Sculpture Court and The Serpentine Gallery.

The exhibition is part of a programme organised by Liberty Property Trust UK.

Also on show is a range of work by other established and up-and-coming artists.

The artworks are available to buy. The exhibition runs until the end of January.

Museum invites you to get involved in the past

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

HISTORY fans will be able to mingle with the county's top heritage buffs as Quex Park hosts a Link To The Past event.

On Sunday, February 10, the best of Kent's dedicated historical groups will celebrate at the Powell-Cotton Museum in Birchington with the Trust For Thanet Archaeology.

More than 15 organisations will showcase their activities coming up in 2013, including the likes of Birchington Heritage Trust, Dover Archaeology Group, The Friends of Margate Caves, University of Kent Archaeology And Classics, Maidstone Area Archaeology Group, Faversham Society Archaeological Research Group and The Friends of Quex.

The event will also mark the start of the Quex Memory Tree, where people with stories or photographs of personal links to Quex Park or the Powell-Cotton Museum are encouraged to share their tales. These can be either brought along on the day or provided by contacting the museum in advance.

TIMELESS: Quex Park is bringing together a range of history groups

The day will include a programme of talks by guest speakers from The Kent Underground Research Group, Thanet Archaeology, Kent Family History Society and the Powell-Cotton Museum.

There will also be access to the museum, children's activities and tearooms, with something for everyone looking for a link to the past.

Tickets are priced at £4 for adults and free for under-16s.

For details, you can visit www.quexmuseum.org, email enquiries@quexmuseum.org or phone 01843 842168.

WHAT'S ON AND WHERE

The Orchard Theatre, Dartford
Sat and Sun, Feb 23-24, at 7.30pm
Box office: 01322 220000
Website: www.orchardtheatre.co.uk
Hairy Bikers: See the chefs with their new show Larger Than Live. Audience members can enjoy a slap-up meal on stage with tales of culinary catastrophe. Tickets £25.

Winter Gardens, Margate
Sunday, February 17
Box office: 01843 296111
Website: www.margatewintergardens.co.uk
Chinese State Circus: The tumblers are in town. Now featuring the formidable Shaolin Master known only as The One, there are death-defying acrobats and feats of strength. Ticket prices vary.

Hever Castle, Edenbridge
Saturday, February 16, onwards
Box office: 01732 861224
Website: www.hevercastle.co.uk
Upstairs Downstairs exhibition: Celebrate the 110-year anniversary of the American multi-millionaire William Waldorf Astor buying romantic Hever Castle. Entry prices vary.

Astor Community Theatre, Deal
Monday, February 4, at 7.30pm
Box office: 01304 370220
Website: www.theastor.org
Open Mic Night: Musicians who wish to perform are asked to come along at the beginning of the event to book in a slot or pre-book by email at openmic@theastor.co.uk. Entry is free.

Lakeside Timber Gillingham
264 Napier Road, Gillingham, Kent ME7 4HL | Tel: 01634 853067 | Fax: 01634 850480
Web: www.lakesidetimber.co.uk | Email: del.peters@lakesidetimber.co.uk

You don't need a red pencil with our prices!

	PER METRE
Sawn tan 47 x 50	£0.79
Sawn tan 47 x 100	~~£1.32~~ £1.29
Sawn tan 47 x 150	~~£2.09~~ £1.90
Sawn tan 47 x 200	~~£2.75~~ £2.51
Shuttering ply 12mm	£11.97 each
Decking 32 x 150	~~£1.89~~ £1.70
Posts 85 x 85 colonial	£14.50
Spindles 50x50 colonial	~~£1.89 ea.~~ £1.69 ea.

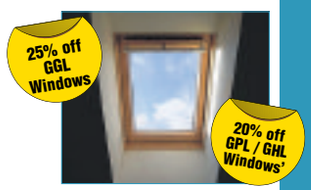
	PER METRE
Sawn tan 47 x 75	£1.09
Sawn tan 47 x 125	~~£1.98~~ £1.78
Sawn tan 47 x 175	~~£2.30~~ £2.11
Sawn tan 47 x 225	~~£3.53~~ £2.84
Shuttering ply 18mm	£16.79 each
Decking screws (500)	£12.34 per box
Posts 85 x 85 eased edge	£12.50 each
Spindles 50 x 50 eased edge	~~£1.49 ea.~~ £1.29 ea.
Multi Rail 50 x 75	£2.48 per metre

Plasterboard 9.5mm 1800 x 900	£2.95 each
Plasterboard 12.5mm 1800 x 900	£3.06 each
Plasterboard 9.5mm 2400 x 1200	£4.46 each
Plasterboard 12.5mm 2400 x 1200	£4.54 each
Celotex 25mm	£10.91
Celotex 40mm	£14.09
Celotex 50mm	£17.28
Celotex 60mm	£20.61
Celotex 70mm	£23.49
Celotex 80mm	£27.14
Celotex 90mm	£29.48
Celotex 100mm	£32.96
Celotex 120mm	£38.81
Celotex 150mm	£47.61

All prices are plus VAT
Daily deliveries to the Medway Towns, Sittingbourne, Maidstone, Gravesend, South East London and some other areas in the South East - please ask.

SEE OUR ONLINE VIDEO ON YOUTUBE - LAKESIDE TIMBER MEDWAY

We are Medway's largest stockist of Velux roof windows
All sections of PAR softwoods are held in stock
A large selection of mouldings in stock
A huge range of metric and imperial internal doors in stock



PLUS MANY MORE BUILDING MATERIALS FOR INSIDE AND OUT
Don't delay, call today - we could save you money!
tel. 01634 853067
PFH (Procurement For Housing) Approved Supplier to Housing Associations, Local Councils and Schools

Medway Fair Trader scheme

morris & turner

BATHROOM AND FIREPLACE WAREHOUSE

BATHROOM STOCK MUST GO

TO MAKE WAY FOR OUR WAREHOUSE REFURBISHMENT

AT THIRD AVENUE CHATHAM

Prices lowered, no sensible offers refused, don't miss out!

CALL AT OUR SHOWROOM OR DOCKSIDE OUTLET

FIREPLACE SHOWROOM - NOW REFURBISHED

New products with opening offers

PETRUS VALOR ELECTRIC FIRE
To take away today.
In Black Chrome JUST £479!
3 year guarantee!

MULHOLLAND MULTI FUEL STOVE
Price on request.

ANY MANTEL, ANY SIZE, ANY WOOD, ALL BUDGETS!
Coffee tables and mirrors to match!

Morris & Turner Bathroom & Fireplace Warehouse Ltd, Third Avenue, Chatham, Kent ME5 0AD
Telephone: 01634 813813

Bathroom Clearance Showroom at Dockside Chatham, first floor next to escalator
Open: Mon-Wed & Sat 10-6pm Thur & Fri 10-7pm Sun 11-5pm **Tel: 07919 046229**

Artist's new work has the power

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

PLAYING around with toys is something generally reserved for children – but not for renowned artist Robert Bradford.

The sculptor, who lives in Herne Bay, has carved out his own niche in the world of art by creating new works out of old toys.

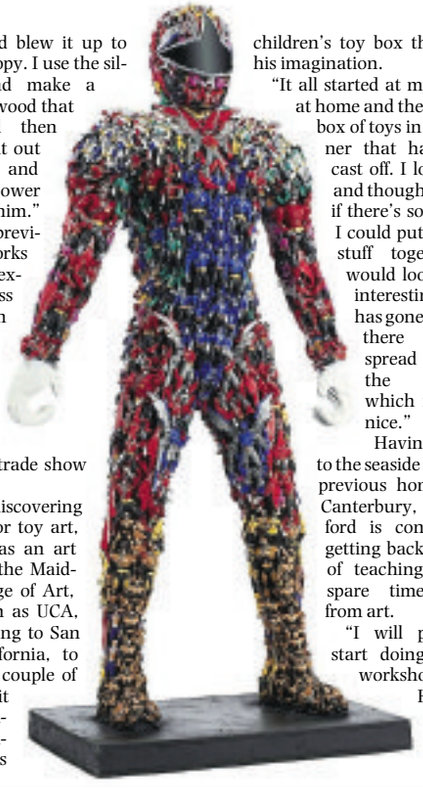
Bradford's latest creation took centre stage at the London Toy Fair this week, but then a six-foot Power Ranger created out of plastic figures probably would.

"I was commissioned by Bandai Toys to make a life-size Power Ranger using toy Power Rangers," said Bradford. "It was their idea and of course they supplied all the Rangers. So boxes and boxes arrived and I was like a kid in a toy shop.

"They were all different shapes and sizes and there was a mass of packaging – it took me about half a day just to unwrap them all."

The sculpture, designed to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the brand, is made up of more than 650 toys from the Power Rangers collection. It took 200 hours to complete.

"It is a simple wooden structure, really. I put a Power Ranger on the scanner and blew it up to life size to copy. I use the silhouette and make a piece of plywood that shape and then start to fill it out by glueing and screwing Power Rangers to him."



Robert's previous toy works have been exhibited across the world, in Milan, Paris, Amsterdam, New York and now at the UK's largest toy trade show in London.

Prior to discovering his talent for toy art, Bradford was an art lecturer at the Maidstone College of Art, now known as UCA, before moving to San Diego, California, to teach for a couple of years. But it was the simple inspiration of his children's toy box that took his imagination.

"It all started at my studio at home and there was a box of toys in the corner that had been cast off. I looked in and thought 'Wow, if there's some way I could put all that stuff together it would look really interesting!'. It has gone on from there and spread all over the world, which is really nice."

Having moved to the seaside from his previous home near Canterbury, Bradford is considering getting back to a bit of teaching in his spare time away from art.

"I will probably start doing a few workshops in Herne Bay soon. There is a group of artists up here that has a studio complex. But at the minute I'm retired from all that and just to make art all day."

As with his Bandai creation, Bradford continues to get commissioned for new works and comes up with his own designs.

"It's a complete mixture. A couple of months ago I was in Istanbul sticking Coca-Cola memorabilia on to a two-metre-high bottle. There was one from Qatar which was a stallion that I had to make and I also have galleries in different countries – one in Paris, one in London and in Greece, too.

"I just make things speculatively and they get shown in the galleries and sometimes they sell. I have a model aeroplane going over to Boston soon."

And Bradford, now in his sixties, explained that his inspiration came from everywhere, not just the toys themselves.

"I like making human-type forms. Inspiration will come from a toy or an ornament, or I'll see a little shape. Sometimes the toy I'm working from is only three inches in height and I make it into a big thing."

Visit www.robertbradford.co.uk to see more toy designs.

WHAT'S ON AND WHERE

Godinton House, Ashford
Saturday and Sunday, February 9-10
Box office: 01233 643854
Website: www.godinton-house-gardens.
Longbow archery: Ever fancied yourself as a modern-day Robin Hood? Well, at Godinton House and gardens you can improve your skills with a bow. Workshop (£55) includes lunch.

Theatre Royal Margate
Friday, February 1
Box office: 01843 292795
Website: www.theatreroyalmargate.com
Jimmy Jones: Back by public demand, the comedian known as The Guv'nor will rekindle his career. For 53 years, Jones has delighted audiences across the world. Tickets £17.50.

Quarterhouse, Folkestone
Tuesday, January 29
Box office: 01303 858500
Website: www.quarterhouse.co.uk
The Amazing Adventures of Pinocchio: Strangeface Theatre returns with its mix of masks, puppets and live music to the tale of mischief and temptation. Tickets £8.

Assembly Hall, Tunbridge Wells
Monday, February 11
Box office: 01895 530613
Website: www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk
The Soldiers: Sergeant Major Gary Chilton, Staff Sergeant Richie Maddocks and Lance Corporal Ryan Idzi showcase tracks from their new album. Tickets £22.50.

Create your home's personality

with PVCu and aluminium windows, doors and conservatories

Our comprehensive range of products are designed to suit any style or architecture and are tailor made to meet your individual needs.

Buy with confidence - we offer a 10 year guarantee and are CPA approved.

We are a family run business offering helpful, honest advice - no pushy salesmen!

Turn your house into a home and save money on your energy bills too!

PJR Windows, Doors & Conservatories
A FAMILY RUN BUSINESS

Unit 17 Riverside, Sir Thomas langley Rd, Strood, Kent ME2 4DP
Call us on **01634 712432**
Email us: pjrwindows@aol.com

www.pjrwindowsltd.co.uk

certass Registered Contractor

Consumer Protection Association

Kent BRIDE Magazine is on sale NOW!

Over £5,000 of prizes to be won

Plus

• Real-life weddings • Venues • Bridal stores • Photographers • Florists • Wedding cars • Groom dress hire • Wedding cakes **and so much more.**

Kent BRIDE is on sale now at all good retail outlets
or call **01303 817072** to order for home delivery.
You can order your copy online by visiting: **www.buyamag.co.uk/kentbride**

ARCHANT KOS MEDIA

KOS Business Week
online@www.businessforkent.co.uk
Your business is our business

CONTACT US...

If you have a business story or any news you think we should be covering in this section, reporter **Nick Ames** would like to hear from you. You can phone him on **01303 817181**, or alternatively email **nick.ames@archant.co.uk**.

KEY PARTNERS

HighGrowthKent

Bishop of Rochester Academy

11 PLUS ACADEMY Unlocking Potential

SUPPORTED BY

King's Rochester

Kent Channel Chamber of Commerce

FSB

Eurotunnel enjoys record revenue in Olympics year

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

EUROTUNNEL has released figures showing it enjoyed a record financial return in 2012 – a year that also saw the 300 millionth passenger cross to Europe using the Anglo-French fixed link.

The latest results show the company recording an increase in financial returns for 2012 over the previous 12 months of 14 per cent – making an overall earned revenue of £834.5 million.

However, figures for actual profits are not yet available as operating costs will not be calculated until March.

Jacques Gounon, chairman and chief executive of parent company Groupe Eurotunnel SA, is understandably upbeat.

"Groupe Eurotunnel has had a record year," he said. "The group has reaffirmed its ability to move forward by getting the best from the infrastructure and operations it manages."

Spokesman John Keefe added: "It's nice to see something going in the right direction in this general economic climate."

The Le Shuttle service was the main contributor to revenue, bringing in £401m and registering a market share of just over 43 per cent. Eurotunnel says its rail services have never carried so many trucks as in 2012, transporting a total of 1,464,880 – beating the previous record set in 2007.

POPULARITY: Eurotunnel transported its 300 millionth passenger earlier this year

Passenger traffic has also grown – up 7 per cent for cars and 5 per cent for coaches – and the numbers carried approached 2.5 million vehicles, with the London Olympics and Queen's Jubilee big factors in this increase.

The three ferries acquired from SeaFrance started operations at the end of summer, but next month will see a greater number of crossings. The company says this will add to revenue for 2013.

The high-speed services operated by Eurostar from St Pancras via Ebbsfleet and Ashford also saw an increase of 2 per cent in passenger numbers, up to 9.9m.

In its January report, which contained the figures, the company stated: "The advantages of the Tunnel – that is to say speed, reliability and respect for the environment – are appreciated by customers.

"This is demonstrated by the number of people transported: the symbolic bar of 300m passengers travelling through the Channel Tunnel since its construction was reached in October 2012, of which approximately 20m travelled in 2012.

"Overall, although the economic crisis is not yet over and competition remains strong in the cross-Channel market, customers continue to demonstrate strong loyalty to the Eurotunnel system.

"The high frequency of departures, the short journey time, the levels of punctuality and minimal impact on the environment encourage industrial and individual customers to turn to Eurotunnel, whose business model and the capacity of whose staff to adapt to the increases in traffic should be recognised."

Small drop in jobless total

THE jobless total across the county fell in the three months to November by 324 and now stands at 34,402.

Medway was one of the top-performing areas in the South as its number of people out of work fell by 153 to 6,655. For the remainder of the county the number fell by 171 to 27,747

Across Kent a drop in the jobless total was recorded in eight districts (including Medway), while an upsurge was noted in four.

Falls were recorded in Maidstone (down 125 to 2,347) and Tonbridge and Malling (down 80 to 1,434), but there were increases in Dover (up 121 to 2,625) and Shepway, up 70 to 2,730

Roger House, of the Federation of Small Businesses, said: "Although it is good news that long-term unemployment is falling, a growing number of these people have gone on to Government-supported training and jobs programmes and are no longer classed as unemployed in the figures."

More opportunities in burgers

OPPORTUNITIES: A representative of McDonald's talks to school pupils about their future careers

FAST-FOOD chain McDonald's is to create 65 new jobs across the county this year.

The drive is part of a nationwide commitment to create 2,500 new positions across the UK by the end of the year.

New employees will also be able to obtain qualifications.

The jobs will be in existing outlets – the company does not plan to open any new Kent restaurants. Instead there will be "more people on the floor" to serve customers.

Franchisee Paul Crocker, who owns 10 restaurants in the county, said: "In 2012 we added some fantastic crew from the community to our team, many of whom were starting out in their first job.

"As a local employer, I believe it's important for all those who can to continue giving young people in particular the chance to get workplace experience."

Vince Cable, Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, said: "A highly-skilled workforce is an important part of any growing business. That's why I am pleased to see how McDonald's is providing training and apprenticeships in a range of skills."

McDonald's offers all its employees access to nationally-recognised qualifications.

Employees have the opportunity to gain a range of qualifications from adult certificates in maths and English to apprenticeships. A foundation degree is also offered to restaurant managers.

MUSIC CHAIN

Hope for HMV as debt is sold

JOBS at music chain HMV could be saved as restructuring specialist Hilco has taken effective control of the music- and DVD-retailer.

Hilco, which already owns HMV Canada, has bought the debt of the chain, which employs some 150 people in Kent, from lenders Lloyds and Royal Bank of Scotland.

The deal means that at least some of HMV's stores in Ashford, Canterbury, Maidstone, Folkestone, Tunbridge Wells, Bluewater and Westwood Cross should stay open.

HMV's estimated debt was about £176 million, but Hilco is believed to have paid much less than this to acquire it because the retail chain is in administration.

The company stated: "Hilco UK confirms it has acquired HMV's debt from the group's lenders. It has not bought the business itself.

"Hilco believes there to be a viable underlying HMV business and will now be working closely with Deloitte who, as administrators, are reviewing the business to determine future options."

CONTEST

Search for the top decorator

THE hunt for the Dulux Decorator Centres' Apprentice of the Year 2013 starts at North West Kent College, where last year's winner Aron Baker, above, studies.

Young painters and decorators have until Friday, February 22, to enter the competition, which is open to apprentices and full-time painting and decorating students aged 17-24 on a recognised course and studying an NVQ or SVQ level two or three.

To enter, visit www.duluxdecoratorcentre.co.uk, see www.facebook.com/DuluxDecoratorCentres or @DuluxDecCentre on Twitter.

■ **FOR ALL THE LATEST JOBS IN KENT –** with more than 1,500 advertised **– SEE OUR WEBSITE WWW.JOBS24.CO.UK/KENT**

Regional Growth Fund: it's time to bid in the next round of loans

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

BUSINESSES are being urged to bid for Government cash loans as a new round of the Regional Growth Fund has just opened.

Business Minister Michael Fallon encouraged firms to apply for some of the £350 million on offer while on a visit to the manufacturer H V Wooding, in Hythe, which obtained £1.1m via the Expansion East Kent programme.

The family-run precision engineering business, which worked on the Olympic Village construction and is supplying components to the latest Royal Navy aircraft-carriers, used the cash to expand operations.

Fallon was on a visit to see how the money was being spent at a company that is also involved in medical technology, renewable energies and Formula One.

He said: "The Regional Growth Fund is playing a pivotal role in supporting business and enterprise. Jobs are being created, money is being invested and the fund is making a difference. This additional round and the improved processes we have put in place will help keep the momentum going.

"Take H V Wooding, where our support is releasing private investment, giving them the confidence to invest, hire and grow. I want more companies to come forward and apply to round four of the fund or look out for similar opportunities through their local enterprise partnership."

Harry Wooding, who founded the business, said: "We could have gone to the bank and received finance, but an interest-free loan is obviously more attractive. I estimate it will save us £135,000 on interest payments."

Operations director John Wooding said the cash had helped expansion plans for the company, which is now exporting to foreign markets, notably India, Malaysia and France.

Nick Clegg, Deputy Prime Minister, confirmed that the Regional Growth Fund was progressing well, with 180 projects having started (89 per cent of those to have been awarded grants).

Projects from the first three rounds have pledged to create or safeguard a total of 500,000 jobs along with an injection of £13 billion private-sector investment into the economy.

Clegg said: "The Regional Growth Fund is already proving a shrewd investment by providing a welcome boost to jobs and growth across the country, with thousands of jobs created and businesses expanding into new markets and manufacturing new products.

"With this next round of funding, I urge England's budding businesses to produce top-quality bids to access money that can help them grow.

"There'll be stiff competition, and we can only invest in those projects that will lead to sustainable jobs and the best value for money. Boosting jobs and growth is our No 1 priority for Britain right now. That is why I am so pleased to be opening a fourth round of the fund."

Round Four of the Regional Growth Fund closes to applications at noon on Wednesday, March 20; bids will be appraised as quickly as possible.

EXPANDING: MP Michael Fallon meets John Wooding during his recent visit to H V Wooding in Hythe

Beijing, Dubai, Rio de Janeiro... all are in reach at reduced prices from Manston

DISCOUNTED travel to some of the world's most important business destinations is being offered from Manston via Amsterdam as part of an introductory offer from airline KLM.

With the imminent arrival of twice-daily flights to Schiphol airport, international business travellers can now book flights and connect to many of the 190 destinations served by the Dutch carrier at special introductory prices.

KLM has unveiled a list of its promotional destinations, including emerging economies in South America and Asia, as well as Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, Dubai and Qatar.

Business passengers looking to build specific trade links with China can also benefit from the KLM promotion.

The airline is offering return flights to Beijing from £472; Hangzhou from £518, Shuangliu from £553 and Xiamen from £543 for flights taken from the start of the Manston service on April 2.

Return flights from Manston to Dubai, via Schiphol, are on offer from £346 and Hong Kong from £513, while the 12,200-mile round trip to Rio de Janeiro is available from £507. The promotional fares are on offer for flights until Saturday, June 15, if booked by Thursday, January 31, and subject to terms and conditions.

They compare with scheduled airline prices of about £520 to Beijing, £690 to Rio and £650 to Hong Kong.

Charles Buchanan, chief executive of Manston Airport, said: "Manston offers a highly attractive 30-minute check-in time, which, combined with hassle-free parking right outside the terminal, will save hours compared to European flights from Heathrow, and even more when travelling long-haul.

"Allowing for time spent to relax in the award-winning Schiphol airport, which offers a great passenger experience, Manston is a very time-effective alternative to other South East airports.

"These prices and our service make Manston a really competitive alternative to fighting your way through the larger airports."

NEW ROUTE: Manston-to-Amsterdam flights begin at the start of April

ARMED FORCES

More support needed for employers of reservists

A NEW survey shows that small businesses are failing to hire reservists from the army, navy and air force.

The Federation of Small Businesses believes a lack of support and investment is to blame and that SMEs need more Government backing to encourage recruitment.

The group said better communication from Government was key for small firms to employ a reservist – 89 per cent of respondents to an FSB snap poll said they hadn't heard of the Ministry of Defence's Employer Awareness Events, which promote opportunities from reserve service personnel.

Roger House, FSB chairman for Kent and Medway, said: "At the end of 2012 the Government said it would work with employers of reservists and give them more notice before their staff are deployed.

"There is an appetite among some small businesses to hire a reservist in the future, but there are clear areas the Government must address. Putting the needs of the smallest firms at the heart of reforms would be a good start.

"The FSB has long said that the smallest firms may find it more difficult to be supportive of employing a reservist, especially as each employee makes such a large proportion of a workforce.

"Better communication, information and support that are tailored to the needs of small firms are a must if they are to consider taking one on.

"While small firms are flexible by the nature of their size, they feel more help to recruit a replacement would be beneficial."

HOLIDAYS

Partnership opens up continent for travel

COACH company Buzzlines has introduced luxury continental touring holidays to its 2013 programme thanks to a road-rail travel alliance with Eurostar.

Each European excursions includes return Eurostar journeys between London and Paris, Lille or Brussels, with onward travel aboard Lympne-based Buzzlines's new Eurostar Connection coach.

The programme features summer vacations to scenic destinations across France and beyond, including Rheims and the Champagne region, Auxerre, the Loire valley, the Costa Brava and eastern Pyrenees.

There is also a seven-day classical music-orientated tour of Germany, which culminates in Berlin for an open-air performance by the Berlin Philharmoniker.

Adrian Gilson, managing director at Buzzlines, said: "This exciting new programme will take holidaymakers to the less well-visited parts of France and beyond. We have purposely kept the amount of daily travel to a minimum, allowing our guests plenty of time to savour the places we visit and relax."

Training, courses and careers

Frier fresh for K College

K COLLEGE has unveiled the interim principal it hopes will help turn its fortunes around.

The college, which has sites in Ashford, Folkestone, Dover, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells, suffered huge financial losses last year, with an operating deficit of £6.4m in that year alone. However the total losses for the year were closer to £16m.

Now Phil Frier has been drafted in – replacing Bill Fearon who left at Christmas.

Principal search is on

MIDKENT College is on the hunt for a new principal following changes to the structure of the organisation's senior leadership.

Stephen Grix will relinquish the position he has held since 2005 at the end of the current academic year, but will continue as chief executive on a part-time basis.

His successor will then be supported into taking over as principal and chief executive when the two roles are merged back together in 2015.

Campus open evenings

BROMLEY College will be hosting open events at its campuses in Bromley and Orpington next month.

It hopes they will showcase the facilities and range of courses on offer, with visitors given a tour of the facilities, careers advice, and the chance to meet staff and students.

The event at the Bromley campus is on February 7, from 5.30-7.30pm. And the same time at the Orpington site on February 27.

Grant to fund apprenticeships given extension and increase

FIRMS looking to offer apprenticeships in the county have been given a boost after the Government confirmed an extension to a grant package.

The Apprenticeship Grant for Employers (AGE) provides a £1,500 cash injection to help small and medium businesses with less than 1,000 staff take on an apprentice.

The scheme is open to recruit apprentices aged between 16 and 24.

Initially only on offer during the 2012/13 financial year, the funding has been extended following a positive response from employers.

It has also been increased in size, so eligible employers can claim the grant for up to ten apprentices.

Business secretary, Vince Cable said: "I know it can be a big decision for busy, small companies to take on an apprentice.

"Employers may be concerned about the time recruitment and training will take, and anxious about how it will work. So the £1,500 grant is a token to acknowledge this and thank employers. I hope many more people will take us up on our cash incentive to grow their business, and train up the workforce of the future."

The announcement is timed with the start of a new nationwide radio advertising campaign to encourage more employers to take on an apprentice and to highlight the availability of the AGE grant.

David Way, chief executive of the National Apprenticeship Service, said: "Apprenticeships come with a guarantee of quality, giving young people a job with training, and are proven to deliver a significant return on investment, so this really is a win-win initiative for employers."

FUTURE: Business secretary Vince Cable is convinced apprentices are the way forward

What is your business doing to help Keep Kent Working? Do you send employees on training courses to aid their personal development or run apprenticeship schemes? If you have a good news story email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk or call us on 01303 817000.

WANT TO START OR EXPAND A BUSINESS IN EAST KENT?

WE'VE GOT AN INTERESTING BUSINESS OFFER

GET A 0% EXPANSION EAST KENT LOAN

To find out more: www.kent.gov.uk/expansion

Regional Growth Fund

Kent County Council

Online scheme to switch on a future generation to business

AFTER recent research demonstrated a lack of confidence from business leaders in youngsters emerging from school - coupled with predictions youth unemployment will exceed one million again this year - a new work experience initiative is being rolled out.

The Financial Skills Partnership (FSP) aims to deploy technology to reach out to school and college students in Kent and allow them to tap into the financial and professional services sectors.

Youngsters aged from 16-19 taking part in the programme, which begins on April 1, will undertake "online immersive learning modules, delivered through an interactive platform, at the same time as having access to industry professionals who they can have online conversations with about careers and working in the sector".

Prior to the start of the GetInGetOn programme, the FSP needs 300 people working in the financial and professional services industries to sign up to act as e-career mentors to participate for just seven hours volunteering over one calendar month.

It follows research by the Federation of Small Businesses, which shows 77 per cent of small business owners surveyed believe school leavers' business awareness is poor, and 81 per cent are 'not very' or 'not at all confident' that students leaving school at 16 have the right level of employability skills.

Contact Jenny Barber, head of education and careers, at jenny.barber@financialskillspartnership.org.uk to sign up as an e-mentor.

Getting the right shot for a TV career

A UNIVERSITY student from Biggin Hill is getting a taste of life behind the lens filming for Sky Sports at a host of football grounds.

Andrew Cochrane, 22, is employed filming the likes of former football players-turned-presenters including Tony Cottee and Alan McInally as they give match updates to Sky Sports' Saturday afternoon Soccer Saturday programme.

The ambitious student, who is studying for a degree in film and TV production at Buckinghamshire New University, in High Wycombe, gained the opportunity with Sky Sports through connections made filming at Watford Football Club, in Hertfordshire, as part of his degree course.

BEHIND THE LENS: Student Andrew Cochrane

Kent at your service

To Advertise Email us at classified@kosmedia.co.uk Telephone us on 01303 817150 Fax us on 01303 817001

AERIAL SERVICES

LOCAL AERIAL MAN FOR MID KENT

Digital Freeview TV Aerials Installations
Freesat Satellite Installations
Satellite & TV Aerial Maintenance
Extra points for TVs & Satellite Systems
Tuning service available

07860645643

All Work Guaranteed With A Personal Service. Call Anytime For All Your Aerial And Satellite Needs

ESTABLISHED 1972

Freeview freesat

COOKERS

No VAT

K.O. DOMESTIC REPAIRS

95% of jobs repaired same day

- Washing Machines
- Tumble Dryers
- Fridge Freezers
- Ovens
- Dishwashers

24 years experience

NO CALL OUT CHARGE
7am-8pm 7 days
ALL WORK GUARANTEED PARTS/LABOUR

01634 309158 / 07958 065395

GENERAL

ALL TONES
BUILDING & DECORATING

EXTENSIONS/RENOVATIONS
CARPENTRY/JOINERY
PLASTERING/DECORATING
KITCHEN/BATHROOM DESIGN & INSTALL
GARDEN LANDSCAPING

CALL PAUL:
07586 854 866
01322 807 425
TO BEAT ANY GENUINE WRITTEN QUOTATION.

ALL WORK UNDERTAKEN
NO JOB TOO SMALL
FRIENDLY, RELIABLE & FULLY INSURED

www.alltonesbuildinganddecorating.co.uk
www.alltoneshandyman.co.uk

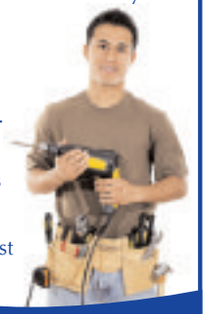
LOFT SERVICES

HIGHVIEW
LOFT CONVERSION SPECIALIST

- Quality • Reliability
- Economy for over 25 years

Design & planning Service if required.

Numerous references available upon request



For a friendly free Survey & Quotation
Tel: 01795 522733 or 01474 730037
highviewloft@hotmail.co.uk

REMOVALS

MAN, VAN & SAM REMOVALS

No job too small
DSS Welcome. 24 hour service.
Free estimates. Friendly advice and competitive rates.
Storage facility available.
www.manvanandsam.co.uk

01634 280085 07889 308755
Local Authority Approved

ROOFING

Danny Clarke
The Flat Roofing Specialist

- Free Estimates and advice
- All Guttering and Fascia Work undertaken

• Special Offer ~ GARAGE ROOFS only £500!

All works Guaranteed for 10 YEARS

01634 580103 / 07508 776459

BUILDING SERVICES

First Rate Service, Quality Products

FENCING Custom made to your specifications

An independent builder's merchant providing a wide range of materials and services including bag materials, paving, timber, decking and much more.

B&K MASTERS & SON

01795 842242 Over 60 yrs experience

Woodgate Lane, Danaway, Nr. Borden, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME9 7QB *Just off M2 & A249*

HANDYMAN

The Local Handyman

Plumbing *(City & Guilds Qualified)* ~ Bathrooms
Washing Machines Installed ~ Radiators Moved
Landlords / Property Maintenance ~ Guttering
Painting/Decorating ~ Flat Pack Assembly
Garden Maintenance ~ Hedge Trimming
Laminate Flooring ~ General Repairs ~ Odd Jobs
No job to small ~ References Available
Fully Insured ~ All areas of Kent covered

Call Clive: 07765 663322

MOTORS

WANTED FOR £ CASH £

ALL CARS, VANS TRUCKS & 4X4S WITH OR WITHOUT MOT. ANY AGE OR CONDITION CONSIDERED.
SAME DAY COLLECTION SERVICE.
A KCC registered company

07802 807877

WASHING MACHINES

CITY AND GUILDS TRAINED ENGINEER EX REME

WASHING MACHINES, DRYERS, COOKERS, DISHWASHERS, FRIDGES, ETC. REPAIRED BY

SQUADMATIC

Same day/next day service,
95% of repairs completed on first call.
Most repairs cost £30-£65.
Office 24hrs (01634) 373515.
Engineer 07702 255105.
Mon-Fri 7am - 9pm, Sat 8am - 5pm.
Free call-out/estimate

BUILDING SERVICES

ALL WORKS

- all types of groundwork carried out
- tarmac drives red/black
- block paving
- patios
- dropped kerbs
- concrete drive paths
- fencing, turfing & tree stump removal
- footings excavated
- brickwork undertaken
- mini digger (gardens levelled)

Please ring free for no obligation estimate

Competitive Prices & OAP discounts

01634 295060
07891641125

KCC registered

KITCHENS

KITCHEN
ANDY SHEPHERD
DESIGNER LTD
Suppliers and Installers of Quality

- Bathrooms
- Bedrooms
- Kitchens

Member of Fair Trader

Tel/Fax 01634 379423
www.as-kitchens.co.uk

PLANNING

NIGEL SANDS ASSOCIATES
Drawing Services

- Planning & Building Regulations sought
- New Homes - Residential Extensions
- Loft Conversions - FREE initial Consultation

Contact 01795 426950

WINDOWS AND DOORS

EST 1986

Finesse

MANUFACTURERS & INSTALLERS OF

WINDOWS • DOORS • CONSERVATORIES
• PORCHES • ORANGERIES
• COMPOSITE & FOLDING DOORS
• VELUX & VERTICAL SLIDING SASH WINDOWS
• FASCIA, SOFFIT & GUTTERING REPLACEMENT
• CONSERVATORY ROOF REPLACEMENT
• ALL IN A VARIETY OF COLOURS
• REPAIR & LOCKSMITH SERVICE AVAILABLE

FACTORY VISIT WELCOME!

NO DEPOSIT REQUIRED
PAYMENT ON COMPLETE SATISFACTION

Proud members of Checkatrade.com Where reputation matters
FENSA Registered Company

For a FREE quotation please call:
01795 661616

LOGS

Real Hardwood Logs
6 Nets £15.99 (min. 10 logs per net)
Smokless Coal (Brazier)
All uses 20kg 4 bags £35
House Coal
20kg 4 Bags £30
Kindling Wood
4 Bags £12.99
Free delivery min. £30 spend
01634 718286 | 07867533489
email darranbromley@live.co.uk

PLUMBING

TJ Plumbing & Heating Services

Gas Safe

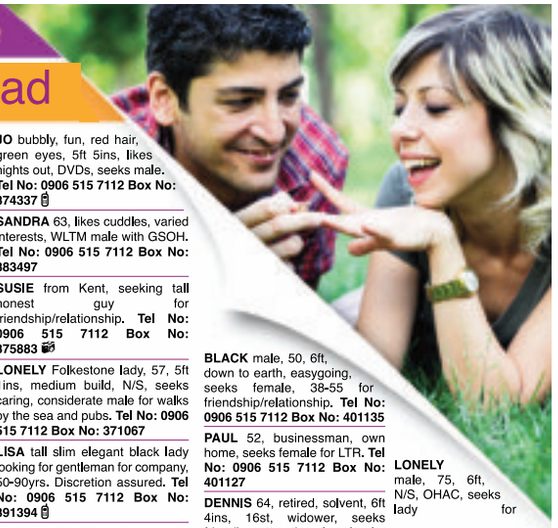
- Service and installation
- Replacement and repair
- Gas fires, combi boilers, water heaters & cookers
- Fully insured and reliable service

Boiler Service £50
Landlords Certificate £60
Boiler Breakdown Cover £5.99

01795 475391 • 07912 940875

Meet your perfect partner through your local trusted dating service

Call: 0800 032 9100 to place a free ad



Women Seeking

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras. Texts cost £1.50 per message sent.

Guys Text n' Chat. Text in now and chat to local people.

Send : CHAT601 To : 65125 or call 0906 635 0508

(T&C's below)

NICKY 45, 5ft 2ins, blue eyes, blonde hair, looking for genuine male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389774**

COUNTRY loving outgoing female, blue eyes, 5ft 2ins, genuine, caring, intelligent, seeks honourable, smart, professional male, 68-75 to share laughter and companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392899**

FEMALE early 60's lots to offer someone special likes dancing music divorced looking for someone could it be you? **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400213**

SINGLE mum, new to Canterbury, 37, attractive, blonde, seeking soul mate, preferably with car. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397751**

52YR old female, single mum of 2, seeking honest, caring, decent man. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389891**

SUSIE young 55, slim, 5ft 3ins, seeks tall, honest guy from Medway towns. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389027**

LISA 5ft 2ins, 43, average build plus a few pounds, blonde hair, blue eyes, looking for man for dates. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401421**

DANCE partner sought by lady beginner in ballroom and Latin American dancing, ideally 55 plus, to visit local dances for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401333**

47YR old female, fun loving, green eyes, likes most things, seeks N/S male, 47-52 with GSOH for nights out, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401287**

LINDA young 62, smoker, seeking gent, 55-65 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400521**

SINGLE mum, 35, white British, 5ft 2ins, varied interests, looking for male to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400329**

5FT female, brown hair, 39, single mum, seeks caring, dedicated guy. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397915**

JOYCE 82, widow, seeking man who is fun loving and good humoured for meals out, 60-70's. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393067**

FEMALE seeks Prince Charming, 20-30 to sweep her off her feet. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392891**

BLACK African lady, late 30's, no ties, likes country walks, gardening, cinema, seaside, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393272**

LYN 59, slim, fair, looking for someone to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397347**

DEBBIE 50, seeking man, 60 plus with GSOH for fun nights out and cosy nights in. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 398173**

MARGARET 57, looking for male companionship with GSOH for nights out, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390248**

MARY 62, fun loving, enjoy most things, 5ft 5ins, dark hair, green eyes, size 14, lives alone in country, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385189**

RETIRED teacher, blonde, 5ft 4ins, medium build, youthful, easy-going, likes most things, seeks tall, refined gent for meaningful relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397363**

MIRANDA early 60's, sociable, friendly, seeking similar N/S solvent, presentable, easygoing male with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394843**

MICHELLE petite fun female, outgoing, enjoys holiday abroad, OHAC and pretty self-sufficient, looking for someone to share a LTR with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399515**

SENSUAL female looking to enjoy life a little more, seeking likeminded male to enjoy interesting conversations over dinner, hopefully furthering our experience. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399195**

BLACK beautiful female, 5ft 7ins, likes most things in life, seeks special male for companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 398391**

SANDRA outgoing 53, carer, seeks male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390230**

48YR old female, kind, loving, caring, genuine, fun loving, loves music, singing, theatre, holidays, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387797**

FEMALE looking for male for friendship and romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392365**

HAPPY young looking 71yr old female, likes life, fit, active, seeks male, 60 plus. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393065**

DEBBIE 47, single parent, likes motorsport, seeking male with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 398127**

YOUNG looking lady, late 50's, medium build, caring, intelligent, seeks kind, caring, intelligent man with GSOH of similar age. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 398095**

ANNETTE 58, 5ft 1ins, cuddly, affectionate, likes animals, seeks kind, gentleman to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394923**

LOUISE loving, caring, thoughtful lady, likes photography, countryside, animals, seeks mature, N/S, genuine, caring, N/S gent with car to settle down with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397239**

VALERIE looking for genuine male for nights out and romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387173**

PICK AN ADVERT AND MAKE A DATE TODAY!

45YR old female, 5ft 5ins, brown hair, cuddly, curvaceous, love animals, music, sports, seeks kind, caring, sincere, mature male, 40 plus with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381319**

PAT widowed mid 60's blonde female, loves dancing, happy-go-lucky WLTM similar aged nice male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389195**

*18+ Only. Texts to 65125 cost £1.50/msg, min of 2 msgs. To STOP text STOP to 65125 See t/cs below

FEMALE 21, brown eyes, loving, looking for male, 20-30 for nights in and loving relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 396057**

INTERESTING attractive, uncomplicated, intelligent lady, many interests, seeks honourable, kind gent, 68-75 for long term companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392211**

FOLKESTONE lady, 58, 5ft 1ins, animal lover, cuddly, affectionate, GSOH, seeks male, 58-63 to enjoy life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395551**

SUE 54, fairly slim, blue eyes, brown hair, seeks male, 45-55, N/S, likes football, sports, meals out etc., looking for lasting relationship and cuddles. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392803**

WIDOW 70's, many interests, seeks gent who misses companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 396401**

SUE 53, slim, blue eyes, likes football, animals, seeks N/S male, 45-55 for loving, lasting relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386247**

FEMALE likes country walks, gardening, animals, seeks male for company, meals out and nights in. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390147**

LYNETTE 60, South African, new to area, N/S, sociable, like the outdoors, looking for new friends. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386387**

BLACK female, 30, likes animals, swimming, music, singing, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395941**

LUCY kind caring, honest, fuller figured, blonde, blue eyes, 44, looking for older man, kind, caring and honest. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395805**

LORRAINE 5ft 9ins, medium build, 49, bubbly, looking for male with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386401**

WANNABEE stay at home home maker, educated, well built, loving, 54, seeks sincere, loving gent, 58-68 for happy LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391328**

CLAUDIA curvy size 20, Mediterranean, blonde hair, brown eyes, seeks mature male, 40-55 for friendship, companionship and enjoy life together. Ashford. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 373611**

HAPPY go lucky lady, seeks tall, honest guy, 50-56 hopefully with a boat. Kent. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392529**

PAT 67, 5ft 4ins, medium build, blonde hair, widow, likes dancing, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390201**

KENTISH lady, 50, no longer wishes to make do or mend broken heart, seeks kind gent to form patchwork moments. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392865**

63YR old female, loving, tactile, seeks genuine male, 60-65. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381863**

HAZEL blonde, 62, pretty, cuddly, N/S, non drinker, seeks genuine, attractive male, 55-65 for fun and friendship. Ramsgate. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366319**

BLACK lady, 52, likes cinema, nights in/out, seeking male, 49-55 to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390925**

Men Seeking

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras. Texts cost £1.50 per message sent.

Ladies Text n' Chat. Text in now and chat to local people.

Send : CHAT601 To : 65125 (T&C's below)

BUILDER 43, tall, good looking, kind, considerate, easygoing, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401595**

TALL 64yr old young at heart N/S male, widower, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401531**

TONY retired, GSOH, likes indoor life, dvds, seeking N/S lady, 65 plus, likes countryside for friendship. West Sussex area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401481**

BARRY 49, 6ft, well built, easygoing, seeks female to wine/dine and have fun times with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401401**

THANET male, smart, young, mid 60's, caring, 5ft 5ins, dark hair, likes travel, countryside, seeks slim, attractive, local soul mate. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401399**

LOVING caring Ashford male, 46, likes outdoors, country pubs, cosy nights in, seeks similar female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401233**

HANDCUFFS and whips. Male 49, seeks younger, slim-medium build female for fun times. Chatham. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401365**

JO bubbly, fun, red hair, green eyes, 5ft 5ins, likes nights out, DVDs, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374337**

SANDRA 63, likes cuddles, varied interests, WLTM male with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383497**

SUSIE from Kent, seeking tall honest guy for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375883**

LONELY Folkestone lady, 57, 5ft 1ins, medium build, N/S, seeks caring, considerate male for walks by the sea and pubs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 371067**

LISA tall slim elegant black lady looking for gentleman for company, 50-90yrs. Discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391394**

TRACEY 46, 5ft 8ins, long hair, fit, slim, seeks honest, reliable, attractive, tall, slim guy for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335375**

47YR old female, 5ft 6ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389413**

MAIDSTONE lady, pretty, petite, late 50's, honest, caring, N/S, loves life and most things, seeks nice guy for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366501**

PROFESSIONAL male, early 40's, OHAC, likes most things, seeks warm, sincere, fun loving female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401361**

GENT 49, romantic, caring, reliable, fun, seeks nice lady friend with same attributes, who has also been badly let down. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401353**

TIM own car/flat, seeks N/S lady 60-70's for holidays, companionship etc. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401351**

ALAN from Kent, looking for Miss Right to fall in love again. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401329**

BUILDER 43, tall, good looking, GSOH, kind, considerate, easygoing, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401309**

SINGLE solvent 60yr old male, seeks female companion for days out and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401281**

SEAMUS 5ft 10ins, black hair, green eyes, average build, likes travel, weekends away, animal lover, varied interests, N/S, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401279**

SLIM 67yr old male, fit, loving, 5ft 7ins, blue eyes, independent, sociable, easygoing, enjoys usual, seeks honest lady to share it all with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401245**

DAVID 51 medium build short hair blue eyes widowed likes nights in/out walks with dog caring thoughtful seeks honest genuine female 45-56 for friendship maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400099**

BLACK male, 50, 6ft, down to earth, easygoing, seeks female, 38-55 for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401135**

PAUL 52, businessman, own home, seeks female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401127**

DENNIS 64, retired, solvent, 6ft 4ins, 16st, widower, seeks friendly, attractive female for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401095**

STEVE 64, young at heart, ex-marine, likes meals out, seeking female with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401063**

RICHARD blue eyes, 48, slim-medium build, likes travel, theatre, cinema, music, meals out, walks, countryside, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401049**

MARGATE gent 70's, easygoing, tactile, seeking company of lady. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400995**

PHIL 61, 5ft 10ins, slim, GSOH, likes cooking, gardening, football, meals out, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400519**

PROFESSIONAL male, early 40's, fun loving, independent, OHAC, seeks warm, sincere, fun loving female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400403**

SLIM bi male, smooth, seeks male, 50 plus for flexible daytime fun. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394012**

51YR old male, dark hair, 6ft, N/S, good looking, likes finer things in life, seeks lady for fun times and TLC. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399867**

PLEASANT single black male, slim, 41, good-natured, likes most things, seeks likeminded lady for possible relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399825**

DEREK 52, black male, honest, trustworthy, loyal, hardworking, likes nights out, meals out, quiet pubs, seeking similar lady for serious relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393886**

SALVATORE 68, widow, looking for female to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399613**

JAMIE tall slim fit 63 solvent generous retired seeks vivacious fun lady for no strings fun. Any age/status. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400211**

BUILDER 43, tall, good-looking, GSOH, kind, considerate, easy going, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399935**

LONELY male, 75, 6ft, N/S, OHAC, seeks lady for friendship/companionship to share our twilight years. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393830**

FUN fit, friendly 50yr old male, medium build, seeking female for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400045**

JACK 28, fun loving, seeking female to share the good and bad times with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393878**

DOWN to earth 49yr old male, GSOH, OHAC, happy go lucky, fit, intelligent, witty, many interests, seeks young at heart female to share life experiences with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399965**

Gay Seeking

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras. Texts cost £1.50 per message sent.

IF YOU'RE LOOKING to connect and chat with other men look no further TXT: **GAY601** to **65125** for 3 chat matches, fun and safe service. **(T&C's below)**

Go online - www.localgay-date.co.uk

MALE early 80's, fit, active, many interests, seeks similar male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401621**

ALAN gay guy, sensitive, likes music, art, seeks similar for friendship, holidays and maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401569**

ANDREW bi male, 59, N/S, seeks male of any age up to 75 for discreet fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394228**

STRAIGHT lady 47, N/S, new to Gravesend area, seeking friends, likes most things with varied interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401285**

YOUTHFUL 60yr old male, bi-curious, seeks similar aged male for uncomplicated friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394116**

Friendship

JACK mature male, Thanet area, seeks friends of either sex, any age for chats. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399455**

STRAIGHT male, 39, Medway, seeks pals for socialising, likes pubs, cinema, golf, table tennis, football. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 398421**

Women TEXT FOR FUN!

*see t&c's below. No meetings implied or guaranteed. **Texts cost £1.50** per message Help Desk: **0844 445 7707**

GUYS TEXT FOR FUN. SEND ARCHT followed by the box number of the person you wish to chat to and send to **66888**
(T&C's below)

NATALIA, naughty but nice! Chat to me about anything you wish. **Text ARCHT 205507 to 66888**

JULIET, just left Boarding School, mature 18yrs seeking fun chat with guys. **Text ARCHT 206486 to 66888**

SINGLE mum, bored at home, why not chat to me. **Text ARCHT 205529 to 66888**

JANET, Glamorous grannie, v young looking, 58 yrs, would love to chat to you. **Text ARCHT 205904 to 66888**

CALLING all men, Jasmine is at home with the phone in her hand, awaiting your calls, she is 28yrs and is vibrant, attractive and fun loving. **Text ARCHT 205667 to 66888**

JESSICA is a blonde bombshell, just waiting to chat to you. **Text ARCHT 206365 to 66888**

PAULA is a petite black lady with a generous smile and luscious dark hair. Give her a call today. **Text ARCHT 206418 to 66888**

TONI, stuck at home with nothing to do, pick up the phone send her a text. **Text ARCHT 205597 to 66888**

STRONG minded lady, seeks easygoing, gentle type man to boss around! Why not text me. **Text ARCHT 205735 to 66888**

Men TEXT FOR FUN!

*see t&c's below. No meetings implied or guaranteed. **Texts cost £1.50** per message Help Desk: **0844 445 7707**

GUYS TEXT FOR FUN. SEND ARCHT followed by the box number of the person you wish to chat to and send to **66888**
(T&C's below)

SINGLE Dad, sincere and caring hopes that a nice single mum wants to chat with him, send texts etc. **Text ARCHT 206399 to 66888**

ROGER is a solvent, business gent, very rich and generous, would love to romance a special lady of any age. **Text ARCHT 205556 to 66888**

JON, Genuine caring man, give him a call and a have a chat. All texts will be returned. **Text ARCHT 206193 to 66888**

Contact members by phone:

0906 515 7112

See who has left you a message:

0906 515 7114

(09065 cost £1.53p/m)

Customer Support

0844 800 1188

Contact members by TEXT!

If an advert has a ✉ next to it then you can reply to this advertiser by text message. Simply send **KOS** followed by the box number of the advertiser you wish to respond to plus your message and send it to 66888*

(£1.50 per message sent)

Take a look at our members!

When you see a 📷 symbol, this mean the member has a photo. Text **PIC397**(space)the advertisers mailbox number, and send to 88833* to receive it straight to your mobile.

(£1.50 per pic sent)

Show us your smile!

Text your solo picture along with your 6 digit mailbox number(space)4 digit pin No. under your photo, to 0779 366 6363. Or email: support@jmediauk.co.uk with your Mailbox & pin number.

CALL CHARGES*: **DATING** 18+ and have the bill payer's permission. 09065 calls cost £1.53 per min. plus network charges. Mobiles will be considerably higher, calls are recorded and may appear on your bill. 033 calls are charged at standard network rate. TEXT*: 88833 texts £1.50 per msg. Mobiles must be MMS/Wap compatible in order to use these services, if not contact your Network Provider. Text alerts are charged at £1.50 per week (3 x 50p billed msgs). To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to 63333. To cancel free match alerts, text STOP to 07781474042. For full T&Cs go to www.localdates-terms.co.uk/. Reply by Text to 66888 costs £1.50 per msg sent plus your networks standard charges. A minimum of six messages from each party are checked and passed for safety sake before adult verified users may pass contact details. Max 150 characters per message. Profiles that have a mobile phone icon may be contacted by SMS text. This service is moderated by operators for your safety.

***SMS Txt Chat 'Fun on your mobile' 66888.** Cost £1.50/msg sent. SMS Txt Chat 'TEXT FOR FUN' is a virtual chat service meaning that you will not be able to meet the people listed. This service is for fun & entertainment only. We reserve the right to contact individuals with occasional promotional invitations. Switchfire Ltd. To STOP text stop to 66888. Help: 0844 445 7707. Opt Out: www.SFire.co.uk. DATA PROTECTION: Service provided by JMedia UK Ltd, SW4 7BX, 0844 800 1188. We will collect the details you provide and may send you details of other services and events operated by us. We may pass your details onto this newspaper for marketing or PhonePayPlus for regulatory purposes. W/C 27 01 13

READER OFFER Holidays

Call 01895 83 33 33
for bookings and information

Holidays offered by **GN Holidays**, Higher Denham, Uxbridge UB9 5EL • Open: 9am to 5.30pm weekdays; 9.30am to 12.30pm Saturdays • Email: info@gnholidays.com • www.gnholidays.com

Ferrari - Live the Dream in Maranello

Escorted Holiday by Air from Gatwick

4 Days

£499pp

Quote FC4-KOS

25 April, 2013

Come with us to Maranello in Northern Italy - home to the most famous sports car maker in the world - Ferrari. Our 4-day tour takes in all the sights of Maranello including the Ferrari Museum, Fiorano Test Track, Enzo Ferrari Museum in Modena and more. No trip to Maranello would be complete without taking a Ferrari out for a spin. Test drives are possible with options to drive a range of models, from the brand new California to the 550 Maranello - ranked as one of the most beautiful and technologically-advanced models ever created.

INCLUDED:

- Escorted throughout abroad
- 3 nights B&B at the 4-star Maranello Village Hotel

- Admissions to: The Ferrari Museum, the Enzo Ferrari Museum PLUS guided bus tour inside the Fiorano test-track proving grounds and Viale Enzo Ferrari
- Return Easyjet flights Gatwick to Bologna including one piece of hand luggage
- All transfers abroad

Monaco Supercars, Paris & Côte d'Azur

Escorted Rail Holiday from London & Ebbsfleet*

5 days

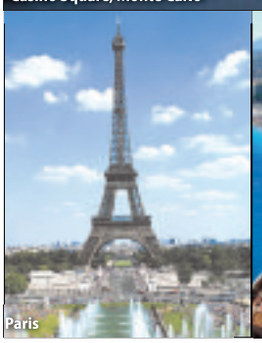
£639pp

Quote MT4-KOS

18 April, 2013

Come with us to Monaco for a unique gathering of the world's top supercar manufacturers. Top Marques Monaco is an exclusive show attended by the rich and famous alongside car enthusiasts. From Bugatti to McLaren, get up close to these rare breeds in the seafront exhibition venue and on the principality's streets. The show also features super boats and luxury items from watches to art. Your holiday begins in style with a glass of bubbly at St Pancras famous champagne bar before boarding the Eurostar to Paris. After an overnight stay in the French capital we continue by TGV to Nice, our base for 3 nights. The highlight of the weekend is a day spent in Monaco with entry to Top Marques.

Casino Square, Monte Carlo



Paris

Nice

INCLUDED:

- Escorted throughout
- Champagne check-in at St Pancras
- Return rail travel London St Pancras to Nice (*from Ebbsfleet on request)
- 3 star hotels B&B - 1 night Paris & 3 nights Nice - upgrade available
- Return coastal train Nice to Monaco
- Entry to Top Marques Monaco worth £40
- All transfers abroad

The Grand Burstin Hotel Scarborough overlooks Folkestone Harbour

99p Bar Self-Drive Deals at the Grand Burstin Hotel Folkestone

3 to 4 nights, half board PLUS 99p Drinks

From £89pp

Quote GB-KOS

Hotel	Start date	Nights	Price pp
Grand Burstin	1, 8, 15, 22 February	3	£89
Hotel	1, 8, 15, 22 March	3	£99
Folkestone	4, 11, 25 March	4	£119

The Grand Burstin Hotel is set in a prime position overlooking Folkestone Harbour. The Grand is renowned as one of UK's top entertainment hotels, so you can relax, dine in style and be entertained all under one roof.

Cabaret Shows are performed in the Ocean bar every evening - fantastic entertainment for all ages!

The hotel also runs regular daytrips to France which are bookable at the hotel.

The Spindles Health Club & Gym has an indoor heated Swimming pool and sauna, as well as a state of the art gym (£4 per day payable at the hotel).

All bedrooms are en-suite with TV, hairdryer and tea/coffee-making facilities.

INCLUDED:

- 99p Bar 6 to 9pm every evening - house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers
- 3 or 4 nights sharing a twin/double-bedded hotel room
- Breakfasts & dinners
- Entertainment

Mamma Mia Summer Seaside Party

Pontins Pakefield, Suffolk Coast

Self-Drive, 3 nights, half board PLUS 99p drinks

£119pp

Quote MM6-KOS

Friday 28 June, 2013

We're reviving the 70s & 80s when Abba reigned supreme and their songs were on everyone's lips - a fabulous private party weekend featuring Mamma Mia the Movie and a top Abba Tribute Band. The party takes place at Pontins Pakefield Holiday Village, located on the Suffolk coast near Lowestoft. Enjoy entertainment every night and day with Pontin's famous Bluecoats and visiting cabaret acts — PLUS a choice of bars and eateries, an indoor swimming pool, snooker, pool, darts, short mat bowls, 9-hole pitch & putt, tennis court and more. The recently refurbished chalets are all single storey and situated on level ground, in landscaped grounds just a short stroll from the main facilities and car parks.

INCLUDED:

- 99p Bar from 6pm to 9pm every night - house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers
- Full entertainment programme
- 3 nights en-suite chalet accommodation - upgrades available
- 3 breakfasts & 3 dinners

To read this and other property stories visit our property blog @ homes24.co.uk ...or smartphone users can scan this QR code

More cash available if would-be borrowers have the confidence

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

WHEN compared with many other parts of the UK, property prices in Kent have been largely resilient in recent years.

Even a double-dip recession, chaos in the Eurozone and a faltering UK economy did not create the massive fall that had been predicted for 2012. And a year on from the doom and gloom that was prevalent across the market, things are looking up.

The Bank of England's latest look at the economy says more money for home loans is becoming available and at more competitive rates.

Analysts always predicted it would take time for the Government's Funding for Lending Scheme, which offers lenders access to cheaper borrowing provided they pass the benefits on to their customers, to work properly after its introduction in August 2012.

It is now taking effect and in a way that can only be positive to moving on sales.

The availability of finance has been a big factor in the stagnant residential property market for the past two years, so it should be easier in 2013 for borrowers to get a mortgage.

The Credit Conditions Survey, by analysts from London's Threadneedle Street, said banks intended to increase mortgage lending, helped by cheaper funding under the Funding for Lending scheme. Banks are also seeking to boost market share and take on more risk.

LENDING: Government schemes have seen a rise in lending but many potential borrowers are nervous

The survey showed a significant improvement in the availability of credit to companies, but some analysts warn homeowners and would-be buyers not to get carried away.

Vicky Redwood, at Capital Economics, said: "Whether banks follow through on these intentions remains to be seen. What's more, even if banks make credit available, firms and households may not want to borrow more."

An increase in the supply of mortgage credit is a necessary but not sufficient condition for a rise in property transactions.

However, confidence among consumers is also vital – they must have the nerve to take on more debt. And this means reason for concern.

Real incomes remain under pressure and wage rises are not keeping pace with inflation for many households. Work is not the secure place it was prior to 2007. Also the criteria for first-time buyers remain a lot tougher than they ever were before the crash, requiring potential buyers to save large amounts of cash for their deposits.

More regulation could prevent boom and bust

MOVES are under way to regulate the housing market to prevent banks from requiring future taxpayer-funded bail-outs.

Banks offering generous home loans that could fuel a future housing boom will have to hold extra capital to keep the financial system safe, the Bank of England has stated.

Laws going through Parliament will give the Bank of England's Financial Policy Committee (FPC) wide-ranging powers.

The committee said tougher rules could slow growth during a credit expansion but would be of long-term benefit by reducing the risk of a future financial crisis, which could require taxpayers to fund banking reserves.

"If these tools are successful in reducing the likelihood and severity of financial crises, their use is likely to boost the expected level of UK GDP," the committee said in a draft policy statement.

"The best available studies point, on average, towards only a modest negative impact on near-term growth if [capital requirements] are tightened."

The Monetary Policy Committee could force lower interest rates than otherwise "to cushion the impact on growth" if tighter credit rules lowered the outlook for inflation, the report said.

Property booms and busts have been behind many of the UK's economic downturns over the past few decades and the central bank hopes the new tools will prevent over-valuing homes.

NEW YEAR, NEW START, NEW HOME IN THE GARDEN OF ENGLAND

What is shared ownership?
Also known as 'part buy /part rent', this government funded initiative helps first time buyers purchase a share in a brand new home. A subsidised rent is payable on the remaining share. At a later stage, if you wish, you can purchase more shares in your home until you own it outright. The scheme helps first time buyers get a foot on the property ladder and work your way up to 100% ownership.

Darland View
Chatham (ME5 7FE)
FROM £45,000 25% share

5% deposit paid*

A selection of two and three bedroom houses available. For more information please call Vikki on 0845 359 6493.

The Chase
Longfield (DA3 7PH)
FROM £46,500 30% share

One and two bedroom apartments and three bedroom houses available. For more information please call Vikki on 0845 359 6493.

Kingsferry Place
Iwade (ME9 8FW)
FROM £45,000 30% share

A selection of two, three and four bedroom houses available. For more information please call Katie on 0845 359 6836.

Christian Fields
Gravesend (DA12 1DU)
FROM £25,000 25% share

5% deposit paid*

One and two bedroom bedroom apartments available, some with private gardens. For more information please call Paula on 0845 359 6387.

* 5% deposit paid on selected plots. Terms and conditions apply. All prices are correct at time of going to press.
Your home is at risk if you do not keep up repayments on your mortgage or other loans secured on it. Moat Homes Limited is a charitable housing association.
January 2013.

moat HomeBuy UK Government

First GEAR MOTORING NEWS

- Bigger Octavia ready to take on Ford Mondeo
- German engines fail to make the grade
- Disco's pulling power 'tow' be reckoned with

Wheeling and dealing Kia offers a great start to new year

Driving

carsforkent.co.uk

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

VAUXHALL ADAM

Price: from £11,255
Driving appeal: not yet driven
Image: ★★★★
Space: ★★★
Value: ★★★★
Running costs: ★★★
Reliability: ★★★★
How green?: ★★★
Best rival: Mini

Vauxhall plays the name game ... would you Adam and Eve it?

PEOPLE buying image cars like the Mini and Fiat 500 tend to give them nicknames, so Vauxhall has a tiny problem with its all-new Adam.

What do you do? Give it two names? "Err, I've got an Adam called Eve..."

Or do you just forget the Adam bit and refer to it as my Vauxhall called Gladys, Cyril, Betsy or whatever soppy handle you desire?

Wasn't really thought through, was it?

I blame the Germans, who probably aren't in the habit of giving their cars nicknames anyway and sell the same car as the Opel Adam, thereby celebrating the company's founder, Adam Opel but dictating terms to British sister brand Vauxhall.

Choice of name aside, though, the Adam is an interesting new venture from the two General Motors brands and in line with the corporate wish to move upmarket from the mainstream sector.

Priced from £11,255 and more city car than supermini in terms of space, the Adam is not cheap, but it does have premium appeal and a sense of style that includes a 'floating roof' visual trick, allowing a distinct two-tone paint treatment – particularly effective on those key rivals, the Mini and Citroën DS3.

For personalisation, customisation and image are everything in the 'handbag/manbag sector' of the car market.

The Adam has specials up its sleeve, too, such as a wild array of alloy wheels, many of which can be further colour-personalised.

And the choice is wide inside, where permutations even include an interior headliner that twinkles like the sky at night – it's been said that only Rolls-Royce readily offers its customers a feature like that.

But just in case buyers haven't a clue where to start before they even start to spec up their Adam – and the price – there are three cleverly-named trim levels from which they can then spin their own imaginative take or fit, whatever name they have chosen.

These are: Jam, for the youngest buyers; Glam, for more discerning females; and then Slam, for a sportier look and probably more for the boys.

I reckon they may need to slot in a snarling VXR version as well to give the range a halo car like the Mini Cooper S.

There's nothing of that ilk on offer for now, though; the onus is on economy with a fairly weedy but miserly 69bhp 1.2-litre petrol as the entry-level powertrain, backed up by a 1.4-litre petrol available with 86 or 99bhp.

I'm sure a diesel will be offered later, but I'm pleased it hasn't been made a priority.

Maybe that's because buyers are getting increasingly wise to the drawbacks of having a heavy – and expensive – diesel lump under the bonnet of a small car and spoiling the driving experience.

WHAT'S IN A NAME? The all-new Adam from Vauxhall comes in three basic trim levels – Jam, Glam and Slam – which can be personalised as the owner sees fit; you can even get an interior that twinkles like the night if you want...

DON'T LIKE

... how much this new Vauxhall is driven by its marketing and customisation options, but BMW has shown the way with the Mini.

NOT SURE

... the Vauxhall badge has the cachet of the Mini, but the Adam (what's yours also called?) will be a threat to the Fiat 500 and Citroën DS.

REALLY LIKE

... the brave thinking behind the car. Can we imagine the Vauxhall/Opel of the few years ago, trying something this bold? Err... no.

Pomphreys

0800 146 039

www.pomphreys.co.uk

London Road
Bapchild
Sittingbourne
ME9 9AQ

VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Mokka Tech Line: Urban: 33.6 (8.4), Extra-urban: 52.3 (5.4), Combined: 43.5 (6.5). CO_2 emissions: 153g/km.

Model shown Mokka Tech Line 1.6i 16v VVT (115PS) FWD Start/Stop £15,995 with Adaptive Forward Lighting £790 and Tri-coat premium pearlescent paint £995. Total OTR cost £17,780. Offer available on orders or registrations between 18.12.12 and 02.04.13. Refer to www.vauxhall.co.uk/offers or contact your local Vauxhall Retailer for details. Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply.

Demonstrator Price Demolition

SAVE UP TO £11094 AGAINST NEW PRICES

2012 12 Reg Vauxhall Astra Active 1.6 Hatchback 5dr

NEW £18860
Ex demo £10995
SAVE £7865 against new

2012 12 Reg Vauxhall Meriva 1.4 16v (120PS) Exclusiv (a/c) MPV 5dr

NEW £18625
Ex demo £11995
SAVE £6630 against new

2011 61 Reg Vauxhall Insignia 2.0CDTi 16v (160PS) SRi Hatchback 5dr

NEW £24430
Ex demo £13336
SAVE £11094 against new

2012 12 Reg Vauxhall Corsa 1.6i 16v Turbo (192PS) VXR Blue Hatchback 3dr

NEW £9435
Ex demo £14495
SAVE £4940 against new

2011 11 Reg Vauxhall Astra 1.3 CDTi 16v (95ps) Exclusiv ecoFLEX (S/S) Estate 5dr

NEW £20240
Ex demo £10995
SAVE £9245 against new

2011 61 Reg Vauxhall Astra 1.4i 16v VVT Excite Hatchback 5dr

NEW £18080
Ex demo £10495
SAVE £7585 against new

Call us NOW for full stock list!

*Terms and conditions apply.

Pomphreys
ALWAYS SOMETHING EXTRA

London Road, Bapchild,
Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 9AQ
Tel: 01795 476 222
www.pomphreys.co.uk

VAUXHALL

Scan with your Smartphone to view all our used car stock with pictures and full specifications.

MOTORING

Visit carsforkent.co.uk

Audi A4 not number one but still force to be reckoned with

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THERE is one big reason the Audi A4 is not the UK's favourite compact executive car – the BMW 3 Series.

The Beemer is a fixture in the national top-10 sellers list, while the Audi is a little way short of that.

The two brands themselves are pretty much neck and neck for sales overall; BMW had its nose slightly ahead last year with 6.25 per cent of the market versus Audi's 6.05, while Mercedes-Benz, Germany's other premium brand, was not so out of touch with 4.49 per cent.

Indeed, it is astonishing how well all three are performing in a tough economic climate; the UK market was up more than 5 per cent in 2012 but is still short of those heady times before recession hit in 2007.

The German triumvirate's resilience is not hard to fathom, though.

In the same way that gold values soar in hard times, company- and private-car-buyers are going for the 3 Series, A4 and their Mercedes-Benz rival, the C-Class, because they know that their upfront quality, desirability and status also translates into good resale values later.

So the A4 (from £23,780) might not be top dog for sales in its class, but it's still highly desirable and more so since a facelift in 2011.

We've tested it in the popular 2.0-litre diesel format that pits it against the 320d diesel that dominates 3 Series sales.

But rather than go for the low-emission 112g/km of CO_2 136PS (134bhp) version of this engine, also registering 65.7mpg on the official combined cycle, we've opted for the more responsive 143PS guise that is only slightly less eco, offering 119g/km and 62.8mpg respectively.

It's also in the upmarket S-Line trim that includes leather and cloth seats and sports suspension as standard, the whole package costing £28,465; competitive in this hard-fought market segment and highlighting that you now get much more kit for your money on cars like this.

The crisply-styled A4 and its four-ring grille badge also says a lot about you, pleases the eye, feels beautifully screwed together and is quiet and refined.

It impresses, too, that such a roomy and powerful car has emissions low enough to escape road tax in year one and incur just £30/year thereafter – some superminis can't manage that.

Talking of space, the previous A4 was rightly criticised for being a bit tight on rear legroom, which stung Audi designers, who responded with a much longer wheelbase for its successor.

The result is a cabin to please even the tallest and leggiest people, while the 480-litre boot is also big for this sector and can be extended by flopping down one or both rear seat sections.

On the road, it's a driver-pleaser, too. Purists who prefer the classic rear-driven layout of the 3 Series and C-Class sometimes deride the A4's front-wheel-drive arrangement, but it offers more security and traction in tricky conditions such as the recent snow and ice.

And if you must have ultimate handling and fun, go for versions with Audi's famous quattro all-wheel-drive system (from £29,275), although a front-driven S-Line's tauter suspension and chassis set-up allows you to exploit the car's grip and crisp six-speed gearbox.

Two caveats here, though. Firstly, S-Line suspension takes away some ride-quality improvements stemming from the car's facelift, so opt for a standard suspension model if you want a comfier ride.

Secondly, an eight-speed 'multitronic' twin-clutch auto box is available, with slick manual selection option and minimal fuel penalty, but it will set you back some £1,500 more than a manual.

AUDI A4 2.0TDI (143PS) S-LINE: PRICE £28,465

MAKING ITS MARQUE: Despite not being in the national top-10 sellers list, Audi's A4 is still a highly desirable car, even more so after its 2011 facelift and a redesign that gives it more cabin space and a larger 480-litre boot

FACT FILE

Driving appeal:	★★★★★
Image:	★★★★★
Space:	★★★★★
Value:	★★★★
Running costs:	★★★★
Reliability:	★★★★
How green?:	★★★★
Road tax:	£30/yr (zero yr one)
Best rival:	BMW 3 Series

Kent dealers:

East Kent Audi Chartham	0845 1217721
Maidstone Audi Aylesford	0845 1262411
Tonbridge Audi Tonbridge	0845 1248867

First GEAR
MOTORING NEWS

Octavia gets a growth spurt

SKODA launches an all-new Octavia on March 16, priced from £15,990 and available with a choice of two petrol or two diesel engines.

The arrival of Skoda's Rapid model last year, slotting into its range below the Octavia, allows this slightly larger and latest version to attack the likes of the Ford Mondeo while maintaining the VW-owned Czech brand's value pitch.

German pride takes a tumble

JAPANESE carmakers Honda (Accord is pictured) and Toyota top a Warranty Direct engine reliability table, with failure rates of just 0.29 per cent and 0.58 per cent respectively.

But German brands Audi (3.71), BMW (2.20) and Volkswagen (1.91) were among the 10 worst, although Mercedes-Benz rescued Teutonic pride with a 0.84 per cent result, placing it third from best.

Disco ahead of tow-car rivals

CARAVAN fans have voted the Land Rover Discovery 4 top when it comes to choosing a new tow car.

The survey by The Camping and Caravanning Club's insurance division showed 19 per cent favoured the 'Disco' for its strength, solidity and 4x4 traction as a replacement tow car – an 8 per cent better poll than its nearest rival.

THE EASY WAY TO A NEW VAUXHALL

GREAT NEW CAR OFFERS AT GO VAUXHALL

LIFETIME WARRANTY 100,000 MILE

Do you qualify for exclusive discounts with Perrys Partners?

Vehicle shown for illustration purposes only.

Vauxhall Zafira Exclusiv 1.6

Specification Includes: Air Conditioning, Remote Control Central Locking, Electric Heated Mirrors, Steering Wheel Mounted Audio Control

RRP £18,565

Perrys Partners price only

£9,995

Including £1,000 Swappage Allowance

CALL US NOW TO SEE IF YOU QUALIFY

Perrys of Canterbury
Island Road
Sturry
Canterbury
CT2 0EZ

01227 636 882
www.perrys.co.uk/canterbury-vauxhall

Perrys of Broadstairs
Westwood Road
Broadstairs
Kent
CT10 2NP

01843 448 328
www.perrys.co.uk/broadstairs-vauxhall

Perrys of Dover
Honeywood Parkway
White Cliffs Business Park
Whitfield
CT16 3PT

01304 448 387
www.perrys.co.uk/dover-vauxhall

VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO 2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excl. Ampera): Urban: 14.4 (19.6) - 76.3 (3.7), Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 20.6 (13.7) - 85.6 (3.3). CO 2 emissions: 324 - 88g/km.

Offers are available for registrations between 18.12.12 and 02.04.13. Subject to availability and are available to private individuals and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only). Savings shown are against list price at time of publication, for details refer to Vauxhall's current price guide. All other sales categories are excluded; cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Offers may not apply to all retailer stocks. UK-supplied vehicles only. Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply. Swappage discount only applies when trading in car 6 years or older with a valid MOT Certificate against a new Zafira.

MOTORING

Visit carsforkent.co.uk

DEALS ON WHEELS: Owners of the Kia Ceed, left, can get £3,000 reward for buying the latest version, while there are deals on the redesigned Sorento. The Picanto offers a tempting package for younger drivers.

Opening 2013 offers highlight Kia ambition

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

FAST-EXPANDING Korean marque Kia raised UK sales in 2012 by almost a quarter against the previous year.

The surge delivered a market share of 3.26 per cent, outselling Skoda (2.62 per cent) and Honda (2.65 per cent) and closing on the likes of Citroën (3.6 per cent) Toyota (4.14) and even its own sister brand Hyundai (3.63).

It's not hard to recognise why Kia has made such progress; with a model replacement cycle of about five years when Western carmakers mostly stick to seven, Kia's range has seen huge modernisation in less than a decade; this is exemplified by the latest Ceed family hatchback and estate – a fine value-for-money alternative to the class-leading VW Golf.

But the brand also offers generous specifications and shows confidence in its products via a market-leading seven-year/100,000-mile warranty, which delivers real peace of mind.

Then there is Kia's obvious ambition, shown by the fact that a record-breaking year is now being followed by a string of aggressive offers for the start of 2013:

- One year's insurance for £99 on selected models and for drivers aged 21-80.
- Savings of up to £3,000 on some key models.
- 4.9 per cent Kia Access PCP (personal contract plan) and finance across the range.
- A £1,000 deposit contribution on the latest Ceed and Sportswagon (estate) models.
- A £3,000 loyalty reward for existing Ceed-owners who buy a replacement car from the new range.
- Care-3 all-inclusive servicing plans from £269.

The discount deals mean that the brand's entry model, the capacious Picanto five-door city car, comes with up to £1,250 off the retail price, bringing it down to a start price of £8,995.

Even bigger cuts are offered on the Rio supermini (up to £1,400) and Venga mini-MPV (up to £1,600). All of these are extra-appealing to budget-conscious younger buyers, who can then benefit too from the £99 first year's insurance deal and cheap servicing plan.

And, despite a recent and dramatic facelift for the big seven-seat Sorento SUV, Kia is also offering this with a £2,000 discount on all versions.

Perhaps most tempting of all is £1,000 off the good-looking Ceed series (from £13,495 with discount), or £3,000 if you already own one and fancy upgrading to the latest model

Mercedes-Benz

Our new Online Van Service Advisor is now live at Sparshatts of Kent Ltd

Offering a fast and convenient way to get a quote or request a booking for your next Mercedes-Benz Van Service or repair

www.mercedes-benzvanservicing.co.uk/sparshatts

It's available 24/7 online, with no hidden charges, the prices are for fixed price repairs, so its quick and upfront to get a quotes.

Online | No obligation Quote | Convenient | First-class Service | QR Code

Of course you can still call us or drop in to get your quote or make your booking, just call

0844 396 1122 : Ashford : Dartford : Sittingbourne : Tunbridge Wells

WHO SAYS YOU CAN'T MANUFACTURE A STAR

500 TWINAIR
SUPERSTAR AS STANDARD

£500 Fiat Deposit Contribution with Low-cost Fiat i-Deal

Representative Example

FIAT 500 TWINAIR LOUNGE with FIAT i-Deal			
On the road price from	£12760	Opt Fin Payment (inc £285 fee)	£5336
Deposit contribution	£500	Tot amount payable by cust	£13030
Customer deposit	£1250	Rate of interest fixed	1.97%
Amount of credit	£11010	Representative APR	3.10%
36 monthly payments	£179	Annual mileage 6000. Excess miles charge 6p per mile. Duration of contract 37 months.	

J G Burgess & Company

Ufton Lane, Sittingbourne ME10 1JB Tel 01795 423815

Opening times:0800 – 1800 Mon-Fri, 8.30 – 1600 Sat. closed sun & public holidays

Terms and conditions apply. Retail customers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offer. Offer may be varied at any time. With Fiat i-Deal you have the option to return the vehicle and not pay the final payment subject to the vehicle being in good condition & not exceeding an agreed annual mileage (6000 in the above example). Offer subject to status. A guarantee or indemnity may be required. Fiat Financial Services, PO Box 4465, Slough SL1 0RW. We work with a number of creditors to provide credit to our customers including FGA Capital. Offer valid for registrations by 31/03/2013.

www.burgessfiat.co.uk

Commercial Vehicles

Sales recovery for vans long overdue

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

BIG HIT: The Master, above, is Renault's biggest van available in several formats, while Toyota's Dyna appeals to those needing dropside/tipping capability

IT WAS tough in the commercial-vehicle sector last year, with registrations down 5.9 per cent overall against 2011.

And December delivered a nasty sting in the tail with a dramatic 15.8 per cent drop against December 2011, reflecting an insipid year for the UK economy.

Of the two primary sectors – vans and trucks – the former was worst hit, with a 7.9 per cent decline. Trucks actually rose by 6.4 per cent but couldn't rescue the overall commercial-vehicles figure.

Fortunately, the SMMT – the motor industry's mouthpiece – feels this bleak outlook cannot continue.

Chief executive Paul Everitt admitted that business confidence had wavered but added: "We look forward to 2013 being a better year for the commercial-vehicle market, with a host of new products and innovative technologies boosting registrations."

This would also signal business confidence returning, since commercial vehicles oil the wheels of the economy, with trucks moving goods in bulk, while vans make local deliveries, service important sectors like construction and mobilise tradesmen.

Anecdotal evidence suggests a van recovery is particularly overdue, with many operators large and small pushing their vehicle-replacement programmes far beyond normal limits, challenging the higher durability and comfort levels of modern vans. As their ageing vehicles begin to look tatty – with public-image consequences – and incur more unprofitable downtime for maintenance, many may have to take the plunge.

There are other benefits if they do; van powertrain technology is beginning to echo that of cars, so there are real commercial and public-relations benefits from running a leaner and meaner fleet with better fuel consumption and lower emissions.

For Kent firms operating into London, there is also an opportunity to save on the capital's congestion charge by buying small eco vans with CO_2 emissions below 100g/km.

New Hilux.
Hardworking,
powerful,
determined.
Sorted.

TOYOTA
ALWAYS A BETTER WAY

Hilux Invincible Double Cab 3.0 D-4D from just £259+VAT per month*

- 170bhp engine
- automatic climate control air conditioning
- cruise control
- rear-view camera
- Bluetooth® connectivity
- Vehicle Stability Control (VSC)
- Electronic Brake Distribution (EBD)

Weekly equivalent of £59.77^

Initial rental	£1,554.00+VAT
Followed by 35 monthly rentals	£259.00+VAT

Motorline Ashford
The Crescent, Orbital Park
Ashford, Kent, TN24 0SN
Tel: 0844 822 7122

Motorline Canterbury
Broad Oak Road, Canterbury
Kent, CT2 7RB
Tel: 0844 822 7130

Motorline Tunbridge Wells
Dowding Way, Tunbridge Wells
Kent, TN2 3UY
Tel: 0844 822 7169

www.motorline.toyota.co.uk

Model shown Hilux Invincible Double Cab 3.0 manual basic price £20,666.49, offer excludes metallic paint £415 extra excluding VAT, delivery and on the road charges. *Contract Hire offer available to business users only on model shown when ordered, registered and financed through Toyota Financial Services, KT18 5UZ on a 3 year non-maintained Toyota Contract Hire agreement between 1 December 2012 and 31 March 2013 at participating Centres. Based on 10,000 miles per annum, excess mileage charges apply. Other finance offers are available but cannot be used in conjunction with this offer. Terms and conditions apply. Indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status to over 18s only. Subject to availability. ^Weekly equivalent payments are illustrative only, and payments can only be made monthly.
Hilux Invincible Double Cab 3.0. Official Fuel Consumption Figures in mpg, Urban 29.7, Extra Urban 42.2, Combined 36.7. CO_2 Emissions 203g/km.

LIGHTING THE WAY: Renault's Kangoo ZE is an electric pioneer

LOADS BETTER: Peugeot's top load-lugger is the popular Boxer

IDEAL PICK UP AND GO: Multiple-award-winning Fiat Doblo

Better-packaged boxes make life easier

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

VANS will always be load-lugging boxes at heart, but the packaging has changed dramatically over the past decade.

Operators have seen economy, efficiency and flexibility soar, while drivers have enjoyed better performance, refinement and safety.

Many of the latter benefits come from car-derived crossover designs.

Initially, this trend was confined to smaller models derived from superminis or family hatchbacks. All that was needed was to blank out the rear windows and the driver could enjoy all the benefits of the equivalent car-owner, including air-con and a decent sound system. However, the same philosophy has since migrated to larger vans, sometimes taken from the platforms of popular hatchbacks, too, even if the van body is bespoke.

Load capacities have also widened, varying from as little as three cubic metres for a car-derived hatchback – used by couriers or as a small company's runabout – up to a 17 cubic-metre delivery van.

Access has improved, too. Many larger vans have low floors in the driving compartment for easy access and most vehicles above the supermini class now come with at least one sliding door as standard to aid loading – many buyers take up the option of a second 'slider'.

There is now a choice usually of side-opening twin rear doors or a high-lift tailgate as well, while cab doors generally have a reduced opening angle, with the double benefit of making it easy for a busy driver to grab the handle to close the door and also avoid it swinging wide and hitting something.

On the performance front, petrol-driven vans may still be available, but they have been all but been displaced by four- and five-cylinder diesels, offering better economy and range, plus good pulling power low down in the rev range.

Extended service periods, lower maintenance costs and longer-lasting parts then compound diesel-operating benefits.

The engine's partner – the gearbox – has also changed. A six-speed manual gearbox is normally the standard – a couple of cogs better than only a few years ago – but urban operators are turning increasingly to automatic, semi-automatic or clutchless transmissions.

These can usually be driven with manual selection anyway but are ideal for the stop-start traffic conditions of the town and city and can be as economical as a manual.

Van safety has also gained from cars; along with a driver's airbag and the option of passenger, side and front curtain airbags, there are active safety features including anti-lock braking (ABS), traction control (TCS), braking control (EBC) and electronic stability programme (ESP).

Pick-ups keep picking up sales

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

RECESSION? What recession? That's the question in the pick-up truck sector.

Sales have rocketed in the UK in recent years, both as commercial and leisure vehicles.

A reason for private numbers rising is tax anomalies, but many commercial operators also recognise they are relatively cheap yet capacious workhorses, available with two- or four-door cabs and, in the case of the 4x4 models, able to go most places required on a farm or construction site.

And perhaps traditional off-roaders lack the carrying capacity and have become too gentrified?

Or do the interlopers cater for an inner desire to wear a check shirt, jeans and cowboy boots?

But not all pick-ups have the whiff of Marlboro Man about them; Fiat decided that post-recession real-world economics needed to be applied and launched a version of its award-winning Doblò Cargo van.

Called the Doblò Work Up, it's a 'drop-side' vehicle with compact external dimensions allowing easy use in urban areas, though Fiat sees it selling across the agriculture, construction, maintenance or city parks services sectors, too.

PACESETTERS: Fiat's Doblò Work Up, top, and the renowned Toyota Hilux Invincible are among the leaders in the pick-up sector

Bipper's awards haul moving along nicely

PEUGEOT'S popular Bipper small van is the current holder of the Best Light Van title from the annual Van Fleet World awards.

Judges liked the vehicle's compact proportions, frugal HDi diesel engines and transmissions – with manual, automatic and Stop & Start systems available – generous payload of up to 660kg and a load volume of 2.5 cubic-metres.

The Bipper is also available in a popular 'Professional' version, featuring air-conditioning, half-height bulkhead and Bluetooth as standard for businesses requiring extra comfort and support for their van-drivers.

The Bipper's roll of honour also includes:

- Best New Van in 2008 (Fleet World Honours)
- International Van of the Year in 2009
- Best Light Van in 2010 (iVan & iTruck awards)
- City Van of the Year in 2011 (Fleet Van awards).

PEUGEOT VAN RANGE

It's tough to keep your business moving when bad weather really bites. That's why selected Peugeot Bipper, Expert and Partner vans now come with FREE Grip Control - four useful driving modes to tackle tricky conditions, including snow and mud. From £38 per week they'll make short work of whatever winter throws at you. To find out more or arrange a test drive, contact us today.

MOTION & EMOTION

PEUGEOT PROFESSIONAL

ROBINS & DAY MAIDSTONE
Mill Street, MAIDSTONE, ME15 6YD Tel: 01622 753333
www.robinsandday-maidstone.co.uk

ROBINS & DAY ROCHESTER
209 High Street, ROCHESTER, ME1 1HF Tel: 01634 842231
www.robinsandday-rochester.co.uk

TheBIPPERofficial fuel consumption figures in mpg (1/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km) for the Partner range are: Urban 47.1 - 55.4 (6.6 -5.1), Extra Urban 56.5 - 64.2 (5.2 - 4.3), Combined 52.3 - 60.1 (5.7 - 4.7) and CO_2 emissions 140 - 123 (g/km), for the Expert range are: Urban 44.1 - 48.7 (6.3 - 6.1), Extra Urban 32.9 - 37.1 (8.0 - 8.0), Combined 39.2 - 44.1 (6.9 - 6.8) and CO_2 emissions 189 - 168 (g/km).
*Amounts stated are weekly equivalents. All rentals are payable monthly. Finance lease rentals quoted are for the Peugeot BIPPER and are based on 34 monthly rentals, plus initial and balloon rental. Annual mileage is 10,000 miles per annum. Business users only. All rentals are subject to VAT. A guarantee is required. Written quotations available on request from Peugeot Contract Hire, Quadrant House, Princess Way, Redhill, RH1 1QA. Offers subject to availability. Offers apply to eligible vehicles supplied and registered from 30/01/2013 until such point they may be withdrawn by Peugeot Motor Company at any time and without notice. For further information on vehicles visit www.peugeot.co.uk

Impressive Debuts

from Motorline Renault!

PLUS THEY'RE FROM ONLY

£52.96 PER WEEK

(EQUIVALENT)

With 4 year Renault Business Lease

New Renault Trafic SL27 dCi 90 Debut

- CD/MP3/RDS Radio • 180º Opening Rear Doors (unglazed)
- ABS with EBD • 5.02m³ standard load volume
- Max Payload (exc. driver) 1005kg • Steel Bulkhead

JUST **£52.96 PER WEEK** +VAT

Sport model available for an extra **£11.98 PER WEEK** (+VAT)

Both these Renault Vans include Renaults new **4+ Package**** including 4 Years Finance, 4 Years Warranty and 4 Years Roadside Cover.

Order your new Renault Van from Motorline today!

New Renault Master MM33 dCi 100 Debut

JUST **£64.93 PER WEEK** +VAT

- Bluetooth radio with multifunctional tunepoint
- 180º Rear doors (unglazed)
- Steel bulkhead
- Front passenger airbag • 10.8m³ standard load volume
- Max payload (exc. driver) 1420kg

£279.19 PER MONTH (+VAT) Final payment £4,158 +VAT

Motorline

KENT'S LARGEST RENAULT RETAILER

Direct Aftersales Booking Service **08700 112218**

www.motorline.co.uk/renault

Canterbury
Broad Oak Road
0844 822 7104
Contact: Yigal

Ashford
A28 Chart Road
0844 822 7097
Contact: Sandra

Maidstone
Bircholt Road, Parkwood
0844 822 7115
Contact: Alex

RENAULT

Business users only. Finance rates quoted are weekly equivalents based on 4 year Business Lease agreements, non maintenance with a 10K per annum mileage restriction, excess mileage charged extra. Rates quoted exclude VAT. Payments must be made monthly. Typical example: Trafic SL27 dCi 90 Debut. Initial Payment (equiv. to 3 months rentals) £683.25+VAT followed by 47 monthly payments of £227.75+VAT (weekly equivalent £52.96). Final payment £3.537+VAT. Finance provided subject to age and status by Arval Ltd, Arval Centre Windmill Hill Swindon SN5 6PE. Guarantees/indemnities may be required. Applies to all new Renault vans ordered and registered by 31st March 2013. **4+ package is included as standard on eligible vehicles. The value of the package is based on £80 for 4th year Roadside Assistance cover and between £305 and £720 for 4th year warranty cover, depending on the Renault model. Figures for illustration purposes only. No cash alternative. Vehicles are covered by a warranty package for up to 48 months. The first 2 years are unlimited mileage, followed by a further 2 years up to 100,000 miles. Please see warranty terms and conditions (www.renault.co.uk/warranty) for further details. Renault Assistance Roadside Cover provided from month 0 to 36 includes assistance at the roadside and home, national recovery, onward travel and European cover. Cover from month 37 to 48 includes Roadside and Homestart (including a local tow to an authorised Renault dealer). Visit www.renault.co.uk/4plus. Offer cannot be used as a discount off the final invoice. Models shown for illustration purposes only. These offers supersede any previously advertised offers.

jobs24.co.uk INCORPORATING JobsforKent.co.uk
IN-PAPER • ONLINE • ON MOBILE

TO ADVERTISE:
TELEPHONE: **01303 817056**
FAX: **01303 817001**
EMAIL: **appointments@kosmedia.co.uk**

Part-time CLEANER

required for
Cliffe Woods Community Association.
Job share basis, week on week off.
2 hrs. per day 14 hrs per week.
Local person preferred.
Telephone Carol - 01634 891484

---

spencer private hospital

The Spencer Private Hospital is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEQM Hospital site.

We also have a 4 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford.

The continuing growth of our business has resulted in a vacancy for the following staff:

This position will be based at our Dover Offices

PATIENT CHOICE CO-ORDINATOR

Full time

Experience within a medical environment desirable

Closing date for applications Friday 1 February 2013

To discuss this opportunity please contact:
Paul Parish - Business Office Manager
01304 245958

For job description and application form please contact:

Mandy Oliver
East Kent Medical Services Ltd
Spencer Private Hospital
2nd Floor, 5 Bench Street
Dover
Kent CT16 1JH

Telephone: **01304 245946**
Fax: **01304 207320**
E-mail: **mandy.oliver@spencerhospitals.com**

Spencer Private Hospital is an equal opportunity employer. This position is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check

---

AMAC DYNAMIC TRAINING

Full Time Administrator

This full-time position involves ensuring that administrative and organisational systems are maintained to support the educational provision provided by Amacsports based near Canterbury. The applicant will provide PA support to their Line Manager; deal with enquiries; assist with the preparation of program and course handbooks; relevant assessment paperwork etc; assist the team with administrative paperwork off-site on occasions; deal with student, supplier, staff and external agencies' enquiries. An excellent telephone manner is required along with good typing and Microsoft Office skills. Good record keeping is essential, using spreadsheets and databases. To be actively involved in individual cases and to have a good working knowledge of office work. An Enhanced CRB is required (carried out by Amacsports Ltd).

To apply, submit a completed Application form and Equal Opportunity Monitoring form, available from www.amactraining.co.uk/about/recruitment Completed form only to be posted to:- Jeanette Saunders, Amac, 2 Denne Hill Business Centre, Womenswold, Canterbury, Kent CT4 6HD

Salary: £13,000 - £17,000 (depending on experience)
Start Date: ASAP
Closing Date: 10th February 2013

Part-time CLEANER

required for
Cliffe Woods Community Association.
Job share basis, week on week off.
2 hours per day 14 hours per week.
Local person preferred.
Telephone Carol - 01634 891484

Rainbow Centre

The Op Shop Ltd
Wish to appoint a
Charity Shop Manager

£13,000-£15,000 per annum (depending on experience)
40 hours/week including Saturdays

We are looking for a highly motivated individual to manage a local charity shop in Cheriton which raises funds for the work of the Folkestone Rainbow Centre.

You will be responsible for running a volunteer team. Previous experience of retail management essential.

For further details and an application form please contact:
Folkestone Rainbow Centre by
emailing info@rainbow-centre.org or
Telephone 01303 850733 between 10am - 1pm

Closing date for completed applications is **Friday 8 February 2013**
Interviews will be held on **Thursday 28 February 2013**

---

project Salus

Integrated Youth Officer

Maidstone (Shepway Youth Centre)
(Salary: £23,054 – £26,421 pro rata)
0.5fte to be worked mainly evenings and weekends

Project Salus is a social enterprise established to deliver the services previously undertaken by Kent Safe Schools. We have recently been commissioned to deliver Youth Services in South East Urban Maidstone including the Shepway Youth Centre.

We are currently seeking an Integrated Youth Officer to implement our range of centre and street-based youth services in Maidstone. The role will involve working directly with young people and agencies, offering services and support with an aim to improve young people's emotional health and well-being.

We are looking for a talented individual, experienced in working directly with young people in creative and innovative ways to achieve the best possible outcomes. This post will require energy and enthusiasm to ensure the success of this highly valued service.

For more information please contact Peter Heckel on 07725595519

For an application pack please contact Katie Ling on 01303 817470 or at Katie.ling@projectsalus.co.uk

Closing Date: Monday 28th January at 5pm
Interviews will be held on the Thursday 7th February

BLACK TIE FOODS

are looking for

Trainee SALES PEOPLE

in the **Kent and Sussex** area.

If you are looking for excellent rates of pay, a company vehicle and good prospects with full training provided call us now on

0800 848 8507

CHORD
Chord Electronics Limited

We are looking for an individual to assist with customer sales and technical support for our products via phone and email.

This will primarily be an office based position but may involve some travel abroad to assist at tradeshows.

Full product training will be given but knowledge of HiFi or consumer electronics would be beneficial.

Working experience with email and Microsoft office would be expected and good phone and writing skills is essential.

Please send CV and introduction letter to:-
valerie@chordelectronics.co.uk

Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Higher Education Information and Support Officer ***PO7***

£10,384 - £18,066 (Depending on Qualifications & Experience) - Medway/Maidstone

We are looking for an enthusiastic and motivated person to take on the role of Information Officer for our Higher Education students. Working alongside our existing Information and Guidance staff, the successful candidate will have customer service experience, enjoy working with people and have a good understanding of the financial issues that young people face when applying to and studying in Higher Education. Closing date: 12 noon, Wednesday 30 January 2013

MidKent College and RBLI Employment Solutions are working in partnership to support disabled applicants. For assistance please contact RBLI on 0800783114 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk

To apply please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk for an application form.

The College is committed to safeguarding young people and vulnerable adults therefore any offer of employment will be subject to a CRB check.

MidKent College

Thamesview SCHOOL

PD WELFARE ASSISTANT

34.58 hrs per wk for 39 weeks per year
Kent Salary Range 3
£14,241.00 - £16,144.00 per annum
Pro rata to £11,231.08 - £12,731.87 pa
Plus SEN Allowance of £1,181 pa

We are seeking to appoint a passionate member of support staff who will join a team of Welfare Assistants to work closely with and support the needs of physically disabled (PD) students.

The post holder will be required to support PD students both in the classroom and within the PD area with their learning and welfare needs in order to maximise their levels of achievement and independence. Experience of dealing with students' welfare therefore is essential and the post holder will be required to undertake moving and handling training.

The School received a very positive Ofsted Report recently and was rated 'good' in every category with some outstanding features. Thamesview is a new school build that benefits from innovative learning environments and state of the art ICT equipment.

We are committed to providing high quality learning experiences for our students and to supporting our staff through excellent CPD opportunities.

Further details and an application form can be obtained from our HR Manager on 01474 566552 ext 8081120 or email k.mcgowan@thamesview.kent.sch.uk

Closing Date: 29th January 2013
Interviews: Week Commencing 4th February 2013

CVs without an application form will not be accepted.

Appointment to this post is subject to a criminal background check via the disclosure procedure. Thamesview School operates a non-smoking policy.

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

---

jobs24.co.uk

PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO CORPORATE MANAGEMENT TEAM AND MEMBERS

(2 POSTS)

Salary: £18,174 - £22,020 per annum (Grade D)
(Subject to job evaluation)
Hours: 37 hours per week

Shepway District Council serves a population of 108,000 and covers a district of 140 square miles.

The council works to four key objectives:

- Improving the appearance of our district
- Serving customers and the community
- Creating places where people want to live, work and visit
- Performing effectively

As part of achieving these objectives you will provide a high level of administrative and secretarial support to the Corporate Management Team and Members and will contribute to the overall work function of the newly formed Business Support team. The post holder will also act as the first point of contact for the Corporate Management team and Members, planning and scheduling work and arranging meetings and events.

The ideal candidate will have an NVQ Level 3 in Business Administration or equivalent and recent and relevant experience of working as a PA for senior management or very similar role. Excellent organisation and time management skills are also essential to be successful in this role.

The closing date for receipt of all completed application forms is 12.00 noon on Tuesday 5th February 2013.

Interviews will be held on Wednesday 13th February 2013.

To apply, please download an application pack from our website www.shepway.gov.uk under 'Jobs and Careers' or email recruitment@shepway.gov.uk

Please return your application form to recruitment@shepway.gov.uk or HR Services, Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY.

Folkestone Hythe & Romney Marsh Shepway District Council

Local job search Local job found
jobs24.co.uk
ONLINE • IN-PAPER • ON MOBILE

DP WORLD
London Gateway

NEW ENGINEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Get ready for your biggest challenge
Get ready to join a world class team
Get ready for a global company to invest in you
Get ready for London Gateway

London Gateway is the UK's first 21st Century major deep-sea container port and Europe's largest logistics park. Situated on the north bank of the River Thames near Thurrock in Essex, London Gateway will provide unrivalled shipping access for the world's leading businesses to an integrated road, rail and sea network.

We are now recruiting for a world-class engineering team to be part of a major and complex infrastructure project. We are 100% committed to the development of a strong team that will provide outstanding customer service, efficiently and reliability in its operations. We are looking for ambitious, hardworking people to join a 30,000 strong global team.

To learn more about Engineering opportunities at London Gateway please visit us on TUESDAY 5th FEBRUARY from 9 am to 8 pm at HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS, DARTFORD BRIDGE, UNIVERSITY WAY, DARTFORD, DA1 5PA

We are currently recruiting for:
- Electrical Technician
- Mechanical Technician
- Stores Officer
- Engineer Maintenance Planner
- Engineering Team Leader
- Park Clerk of Works
- Automation and Optimisation Engineer
- Crane Manager
- Document Controller
- High Voltage Technician
- Maintenance, Reliability and Infrastructure Manager

COMMITMENT – INNOVATION – GROWTH – RESPONSIBILITY

Follow us on:
Twitter: @LondonGatewayUK | Facebook: London Gateway Jobs | www.londongateway.com

Principal/Chief Executive

> COMPETITIVE SIX-FIGURE SALARY
> ATTRACTIVE BENEFITS PACKAGE
> RELOCATION PACKAGE
> SUPPORTED PROGRESSION INTO CHIEF EXECUTIVE ROLE

Are you INNOVATIVE, INSPIRING and AMBITIOUS?

MidKent College comprises three key elements: MKC Training Services, which provides all of the training for the Royal School of Military Engineering at Chatham; our new £86 million campus at Medway; and our Maidsone Campus, which is currently undergoing a major refurbishment.

As one of the biggest and best providers of further and higher education in the country, we are now on the hunt for an exceptional new principal who will take over as principal/chief executive from 2015.

From September 2013 we are separating out the roles of principal and chief executive. Stephen Grix will continue part-time as the chief executive responsible for the strategic direction of the College and MKC Training Services. The successful candidate for this post will spend their first two years leading the College as principal and from 2015 will move into the combined role of principal/chief executive.

Visit www.midkent.ac.uk/principal for more information and to apply for this life-changing career opportunity. Alternatively call HR director Andrea Ashman for an informal discussion on 01634 383544.

Closing date: Monday 25 February 2013 ***Interview dates: Tuesday 19 & Wednesday 20 March 2013***

Investors in Diversity www.iiduk.com | Positive About Disabled People | Investor in People | KEiBA Winner

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

MidKent College

HIGHWAYS

HIGHWAYS - ASHFORD AREA

BURTON ROAD, ASHFORD
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Burton Road, Ashford, on or after 11 February 2013 for up to 6 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Faversham Road and Warwick Road.

The alternative routes are via Faversham Road, Nettlefield Road and Burton Road or via Burton Road, Church Road and Faversham Road.

HIGHBURY LANE, TENTERDEN
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to provide a new gas supply to Highbury Hall Youth Club, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Highbury Lane, Tenterden, on or after 28 January 2013 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via A28 High Street and Bridewell Lane.

WATER LANE, SMARDEN
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to repair the Chequers Inn following accident damage, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Water Lane, Smarden, on or after 28 January 2013 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of the junction with The Street.

The alternative route is via Bell Lane, Smarden Bell Lane, Burnthouse Lane, Biddenden Road and Cage Lane.

NOTICE

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(VARIOUS ROADS, THE BOROUGH OF ASHFORD)
(20MPH, 30MPH, 40MPH, 50MPH SPEED LIMITS
AND DERESTRICTED ROADS)
AMENDMENT NO. 3 CONSOLIDATION ORDER 2012

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council has made an Order under Sections 81, 82, 83 and 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which is to :-

(1) Extend the existing 30mph speed limit on Egerton Road, Pluckley (2) install a new 40mph limit on The Pinnock, Pluckley Thorne and (3) install a new 30mph limit through Chambers Green, Pluckley.

A copy of the proposed Order, which comes into operation on 28/01/2013, together with an explanatory statement and a map showing the lengths of roads concerned may be inspected during normal office hours at County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ or at the offices of the Ashford Highways Depot, Javelin Way, Ashford, Kent TN24 8AD.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or any instrument made thereunder, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Orders.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(VARIOUS ROADS, EGERTON, ASHFORD)

(WEIGHT RESTRICTION) ORDER 2013
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council, in exercise of its powers under Sections 1 and 2 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, has made an Order, the effect of which is to:-

Prohibit any vehicle, laden or unladen with a gross weight which exceeds 7.5 tonnes from using;

Sandway, Coach Road, Egerton House Road, Link Hill Lane, Glebeland, The Street, Stonebridge Green Road, Iden Lane, Field mill Road, Southfield Lane, Barnfield Road, Hurst Lane, Newlands Road, Park Lane, Hunder Hatch Lane, Burnt Mill Road, Hazeldene Farm Road, Egerton Road from its junction with Field Mill Road to its junction with Vicarage Lane, Pivington Lane from Park Lane to a point 228m north of its junction with Egerton Road.

Access rights will be maintained for all vehicles requiring legitimate access to or from any premises situated on these roads.

This will be for improving the amenities of the area through which the road runs.

A copy of the Order, which comes into operation on 20 January 2013, together with an explanatory statement and a map showing the lengths of roads affected by the new provisions may be inspected during normal office hours at the offices of the Ashford Borough Council, Ashford Gateway Plus, Church Road, Ashford TN23 1AS and the Kent County Council, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone ME14 1XX.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made thereunder, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Orders.

HIGHWAYS - CANTERBURY AREA

HAMILTON ROAD, WHITSTABLE
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to install kerb build-outs, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Hamilton Road, Whitstable, on or after 16 February 2013 as shown below.

Works are planned to be carried out on the weekends of 16 & 17 February and 23 & 24 February.

The planned closure times are between 08:00 hrs and 16:00 hrs each Saturday and between 09:00 hrs and 16:00 hrs each Sunday.

The road will be closed at the junction with Stream Walk.

The alternative route is via Regent Street and Cromwell Road.

LANES WALK & CUCKOO DOWN LANE, WHITSTABLE
(RESTRICTIONS ON CYCLISTS & PEDESTRIANS)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works as part of scheme to install Oyster Bay Cycle Trail, Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting pedestrians and cyclists on Lanes Walk & Cuckoo Down Lane, Whitstable, as shown below.

LANES WALK will be closed for its entire length, from 11 February 2013 for up to 1 week.

The alternative route is via Tower Parade, Cromwell Road and Westgate Terrace.

CUCKOO DOWN LANE will be closed for its entire length, from 15 February 2013 for up to 2 weeks.

The alternative route is via Cromwell Road, Westgate Terrace and Reservoir Road

---

A290 ST DUNSTAN'S STREET, CANTERBURY
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow a structural survey of the Westgate Towers to be carried out, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on A290 St Dunstan's Street, Canterbury, on or after Sunday 17 February 2013, between 08:00 hrs and 16:00 hrs.

The road will be closed adjacent to the south side of the Westgate Towers, with no through access between St Peter's Place and St Dunstan's Street / North Lane.

The alternative route is via A290 St Peter's Place, A2050 Rheims Way, London Road, A290 St Dunstan's Street and Station Road West.

B2205 ST JOHN'S ROAD & COLEWOOD ROAD, WHITSTABLE
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway resurfacing works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on B2205 St John's Road & Colewood Road, Whitstable, on or after 17 February 2013 for up to 3 days, between 09:30 hrs and 15:30 hrs each day.

The roads will be closed between the junctions with Kite Farm and Tyler Way, with no through access between Whitstable and Herne Bay using this route.

The alternative route for low vehicles is via B2205 Whitstable Road, Sea Street, Greenhill Bridge Road, A2990 (Old) Thanet Way, Chestfield Road and St John's Road.

For all vehicles over 13' 3" (4.0 M), the alternative route is via B2205 Whitstable Road, Sea Street, Greenhill Bridge Road, A2990 (Old) Thanet Way, B2205 Borstal Hill, Canterbury Road, Oxford Street, High Street, Harbour Street, Tower Parade, Tankerton Road, Bennells Avenue, Herne Bay Road and St John's Road.

HIGHWAYS - DARTFORD AREA

CHURCH HILL STONE LEVEL CROSSING DARTFORD
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of repairs to Arris rail and tarmac repairs, Kent County Council intend to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Church Hill Stone Travel Crossing, on or after 17th February 2013 for up to 1 night and 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside of the level crossing.

The alternative route is Church Hill Stone Place road , London road St Clements way Crossway Bolouvard and Charles street .

STATION APPROACH DARTFORD
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of the set up a crane to lift a structure onto platform 3 and 4 on Dartford Station, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Station Approach Dartford, on or after 17th February 2013 for up to I day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at Station Approach.

There is no alternative diversion , however access to the station carpark to be maintained if possible.

WARREN ROAD SOUTHFLEET
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because BT require safe access to the carriageway box for cabling, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Warren Road Southfleet, on or after 11th February 2013 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction of Dale Road to the junction with New Barn Road.

There will be no access for through traffic between these junctions .

The alternative route is via New Barn Road and Red Street.

WHITEHILL ROAD LONGFIELD DARTFORD
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of BT cabling works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Whitehill Road, Longfield Dartford, on or after 29th January 2013 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction with Main road to the junction of Highcross Road. There will be no access for through traffic at this point.

The alternative route is Via Highcross Road, Sandbanks Hill, Green Street and Main road.

HIGHWAYS - DOVER AREA

ROWLING ROAD, GOODNESTONE
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow access to the overhead cable network to restore customer a phone service, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Rowling Road, Goodnestone, on or after 11 February 2013 for up to 2 days, between 09:30 hrs and 15:30 hrs each day.

The road will be closed from Lower Rowling Farm north-eastwards to the junction with Sandwich Road.

The alternative route is via Sandwich Road and Rowling Road.

HIGHWAYS - GRAVESEND AREA

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

GOLD STREET MEOPHAM, GRAVESEND

(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

Because of BT require access to overhead network cables for new customer connection, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Gold Street Meopham, on or after 30th January 2013 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from junction Sole Street on Gold Street to junction Batts Road.

There will be no access for through traffic between these junctions.

The alternative route is via Sole Street, The Street, Cobhambury Road Luddesdown Road, Henley Street and Vice Versa.

HIGHWAYS - MAIDSTONE AREA

GOUDHURST ROAD, STAPLEHURST
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Goudhurst Road, Staplehurst, on or after 28 January 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Pinnock Lane to Pristling Lane.

The alternative route is via Pristling Lane, Five Oak Lane.

SLIP ROAD BETWEEN A20 LONDON ROAD
AND A26 TONBRIDGE ROAD, MAIDSTONE
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to lay 10m of BT duct, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on the slip road between A20 London Road and A26 Tonbridge Road, Maidstone, on or after 17 February 2013 for up to 3 nights between 19.00hrs and 05.00hrs or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via A20 The Broadway, A229 St Peters Bridge/Fairmeadow, A20 The Broadway, A26 Tonbridge Road.

WEST STREET, HARRIETSHAM
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of traffic calming measures, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on West Street, Harrietsham, on or after 16 February 2013 for up to 9 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside of The Primary School.

The alternative route is via A20 Ashford Road, Hook Lane.

VARIOUS ROADS, MAIDSTONE
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow a programme of carriageway patching and surface treatment works to be carried out, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to restrict traffic on various roads in Kent, as shown below.

The Order will become effective on or after 11th February 2013 for up to 18 months, or until the works have been completed.

The planned dates and times for each road closure or restriction are shown below, in a Schedule listed in alphabetical order of District.

Planned dates will be indicated by signage displayed on site 14 days in advance. Road closures and other restrictions will be in effect when the appropriate signage and barriers are in place.

Each road indicated will need to be closed once for prepatching works (as per the schedule below) and a second time for the actual surface treatment works (Surface dressing or microsurfacing) later in the year (These dates will be advertised on information boards on each site, 14 days in advance of commencement).

Every effort will be made to keep to the schedule shown below. Some minor modifications may be made to dates and duration of works, to be advised once known.

Adverse weather conditions may prevent some works being carried out on the planned dates. Roads that are missed will be re-scheduled, as advised locally and signposted on site.

SCHEDULE

MAIDSTONE

CROSS STREET, MAIDSTONE - closed between Hardy Street and Peel Street.

18th to 20th March 2013 - 0830hrs to 1730hrs.

Alternative route via Fisher Street, Peel Street, John Street and Hardy Street.

HUNT STREET, WEST FARLEIGH - closed between Smiths Hill and Bow Hill.

11th to 15th March 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative route via B2163 Smiths Hill, Teston Lane, A26 Tonbridge Road, B2015 Bow Road and Bow Hill.

PILGRIMS WAY, HARRIETSHAM & THURNHAM - closed between Hollingbourne Hill and The Street, Detling

For further information, please contact
Kent County Council Highways and Transportation,
on 08458 247 800 (local rate)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council

HIGHWAYS

11th February to 19th February 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative route via Hollingbourne Hill, Upper Street, Eyhorne Street, A20 Ashford Road, Roundwell, The Street, Bearsted, Ware Street, Hockers Lane and The Street, Detling.

FRINSTEAD LANE, WORMSHILL - closed up to Bedmonton House entrance.

19th February to 20th February 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs

(No alternative route as this is a no through road)

GREENWAY COURT ROAD, HOLLINGBOURNE - Closed between A20 Ashford Road and Eyhorne Street.

4th to 8th March 2013. 0830hrs - 1730hrs

Alternative route via A20 Ashford Road and Eyhorne Street.

HAMPSTEAD LANE, YALDING - closed between Level crossing at Yalding Station and B2015 Maidstone Road, Nettlestead Green.

1st to 6th March 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative route via B2015 Maidstone Road, Bow Road, A20 Tonbridge Road, B2163 Teston Lane, Smiths Hill, Yalding Hill, B2010 High Street, Yalding, B2162 Lees Road, Hampstead Lane.

STATION ROAD, NETTLESTEAD GREEN - closed between B2162 Hampstead Lane and B2015 Maidstone Road, Nettlestead Green.

5th to 9th March 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Via B2015 Maidstone Road and B2162 Hampstead Lane.

HAZEL STREET ROAD, HAZEL STREET NR HUCKING - closed between South Green Lane and Southlees Lane.

21st February to 27th February. 0830hrs to 1730hrs.

Alternative route via South Green Lane and Southlees Lane.

SOUTH GREEN LANE, SOUTH GREEN, NR HUCKING - closed between Rumstead Road and Hazel Street Road.

21st February to 27th February. 0830hrs to 1730hrs.

Alternative route via South Green Lane, Southlees Lane and Hazel Street Road.

LODDINGTON LANE, BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA - closed between B2163 Heath Road and Butt Green Lane.

8th to 9th March 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs.

Alternative route via Butt Green Lane, A229 Linton Hill and B2163 Heath Road.

WILDEN PARK ROAD, STAPLEHURST - Closed between Park Road and Five Oak Lane.

10th to 11th March 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs.

Alternative route via Pagehurst Road, Five Ash Lane and Five Oak Lane

PRISTLING LANE, STAPLEHURST - Closed between Goudhurst Road, Staplehurst and Snoad Lane

11th to 15th February 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs.

Alternative Route via Goudhurst Road Five Oak Lane and Snoad Lane.

SNOAD LANE, STAPLEHURST - Closed between Five Oak Lane and Pristling Lane.

11th 15th February 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs.

Alternative Route via Five Oak Lane, Goudhurst Road and Pristling Lane.

SMITHS HILL, WEST FARLEIGH - Closed from Ewell Lane to Shingle Barn Lane.

18th to 21st February 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs.

Alternative route via B2163 Smiths Hill, Teston Lane, A20 Tonbridge Road, B2015 Bow Road, Maidstone Road, B2162 Hampstead Lane, Lees Road, Yalding High Street, Yalding Hill and Smiths Hill.

WYEBANKS ROAD, (Nr DODDINGTON) - Closed between Snoad Farm Road and Slade Road.

28th February to 1st March 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs.

Alternative Route via Slade Road, Seed Road and Frith Road.

BOY COURT LANE, HEADCORN - Tilden (Upper Little Boy Court Farm)

22nd to 24th February 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs.

No alternative route as no through road.

WICHLING GREEN LANE, DODDINGTON - Closed from Endings Wood Road to Old Lenham Road.

4th March to 6th March, 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs.

Alternative Route via Old Lenham Road, The Street, Doddington, Old Lenham Road and Endings Wood Road.

NEW ROAD, OTHAM - Closed between A274 Sutton Road and Avery Lane.

21st to 22nd February 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs.

Alternative Route via A274 Sutton Road, Gore Court Road, White Horse Lane and Simmonds Lane.

HONEY LANE, OTHAM - Avery Lane to White Horse Lane

22nd to 23rd February 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs.

Alternative Route via New Road, A274 Sutton Road, Gore Court Road, White Horse Lane and Simmonds Lane.

SIMMONDS LANE, OTHAM - Closed between Honey Lane and White Horse Lane

23rd to 24th February 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs.

Alternative Route via White Horse Lane and Honey Lane.

PARK LANE, WORMSHILL - Closed from The Street, Wormshill to end.

7th to 8th March 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs.

No alternative route as this is a no through road.

HIGHWAYS - SEVENOAKS AREA

LONDON ROAD, WEALD, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of BT works for access to manholes for cabling, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on London Road, Weald, Sevenoaks, on or after 5th February 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the junction with Riverhill for a distance of 200 metres. There will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via Riverhill, B245 London Road.

HIGHWAYS - SWALE AND ASHFORD

A251 ASHFORD ROAD, SHELDWICH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of water mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on A251 Ashford Road, Sheldwich, Faversham, on or after 15 February 2013 as shown below.

The A251 Ashford Road will be closed at North Street, between the junctions with Plumford Lane and Porters Lane.

There will be no access between Ashford and Faversham using the A251.

The planned dates of closures are as follows

HALF TERM

Saturday 16 February 2013 from 07:30 hrs through until Sunday 24 February at 17:00 hrs

EASTER

Friday 29 March 2013 from 07:30 hrs through until Sunday 14 April at 17:00 hrs

The diversion routes are

Northbound via A251 Ashford Road, Faversham Road, A252 Canterbury Road, The Street, Maidstone Road, A28 Canterbury Road, Ashford Road, Thanington Road then joining the A2 Trunk Road at Thanington continuing via Brenley Corner to A2 Canterbury Road and A251 Ashford Road.

Southbound, there is no access between the A2 and A28 at Thanington. The route is A251 Ashford Road, A2 Canterbury Road via Brenley Corner, A2 Trunk Road continuing coast bound to the Coldharbour Lane junction (signposted Barham, Kingston, Bish'b'rne) then London bound on the A2 to Thanington to join the A28 Thanington Road, Ashford Road, Canterbury Road, A252 Maidstone Road, The Street, Canterbury Road, A251 Faversham Road to Ashford Road.

HIGHWAYS - THANET AREA

ALLAND GRANGE LANE, MANSTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to install new signage, road markings and red high friction surfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Alland Grange Lane, Manston, on or after 11 February 2013 for up to 3 days, between 08:00 hrs to 16:00 hrs each day.

The road will be closed for its entire length.

The alternative route is via B2190 Spitfire Way & B2050 Manston Road.

BROAD STREET, RAMSGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to reline a sewer, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Broad Street, Ramsgate, on or after 11 February 2013 for up to 4 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the junction with School Lane, with no through access between the junctions with Hardres Street and School Lane.

The alternative route is via Hardres Street, Boundary Road, Chatham Place, Chatham Street, High Street and Church Hill.

HARBOUR STREET, RAMSGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to install water connections to a new development, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Harbour Street, Ramsgate, on or after 11 February 2013 for up to 3 days, or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of 34-40, with no through access.

The alternative route is via Madeira Walk, Wellington Crescent, Plains of Waterloo and King Street.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of Harbour Street will be suspended to allow access.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of King Street will be suspended between the junctions with Broad Street and Harbour Street.

PLUMSTONE ROAD, ACOL & PRESTON ROAD, MANSTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Plumstone Road, Acol and Preston Road, Manston, on or after 11 February 2013 as shown below.

Planned closure times are between 07:30 hrs and 16:30 hrs each day for both closures.

PLUMSTONE ROAD, ACOL will be closed for its entire length, from 11 February for up to 5 days.

The alternative route is via Seamark Road, A299 Canterbury Road West and Minster Road

PRESTON ROAD, MANSTON will be closed for its entire length, from 18 February for up to 3 days.

The alternative route is via Manston Road and Manston Court Road.

THANET ROAD, BROADSTAIRS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to provide a new phone service, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Thanet Road, Broadstairs, on or after 11 February 2013 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of the junction with Albion Street.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Albion Street and Prospect Road.

The alternative route is via Albion Street, High Street, Prospect Place and Thanet Road.

HIGHWAYS - TONBRIDGE & MALLING AREA

BARMING ROAD, WATERINGBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to install a new telegraph pole, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Barming Road, Wateringbury, on or after 28 January 2013 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Wateringbury Road for 250 metres.

The alternative route is via North Pole Road, North Street, A26 Tonbridge Road, Malling Road.

HALL ROAD, WOULDHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to install a new water main, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Hall Road, Wouldham, on or after 28 January 2013 for up to 86 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Knowle Road to the end of Hall Road.

The alternative route is via Knowle Road, Rochester Road, Scarborough Lane.

HIGHWAYS - TUNBRIDGE WELLS AREA

NORTH FARM ROAD/DOWDING WAY, TUNBRIDGE WELLS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of track renewal works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on North Farm Road/Dowding Way, Tunbridge Wells, on or after 3 February 2013 for up to 1 night between 01.20hrs and 04.00hrs or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the railway bridge.

The alternative route is via North Farm Road, Sandhurst Road, Birken Road, Liptraps Lane, Lamberts Road, Dowding Way.

COLLIERS GREEN ROAD, CRANBROOK (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to replace a telegraph pole, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Colliers Green Road, Cranbrook, on or after 16 February 2013 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Marden Road to Round Green.

The alternative route is via Marden Road, Goudhurst Road, The Common, Rocks Hill, Cranbrook Road, Pinnock Lane, Goudhurst Road.

WATERLOO ROAD, CRANBROOK (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of traffic calming measures, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Waterloo Road, Cranbrook, on or after 16 February 2013 for up to 9 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Stone Street to Cornwallis House.

The alternative route is via Stone Street, High Street, Angley Road, Wilsey Green, Waterloo Road.

VARIOUS ROADS, TUNBRIDGE WELLS (RESURFACING) (PROHIBI TION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow a programme of carriageway patching and surface treatment works to be carried out, Kent County Council has made an Order to restrict traffic on various roads in Kent, as shown below.

The Order will become effective on or after 28th January 2013 for up to 18 months, or until the works have been completed.

The planned dates and times for each road closure or restriction are shown below, in a Schedule listed in alphabetical order of District.

Planned dates will be indicated by signage displayed on site 14 days in advance. Road closures and other restrictions will be in effect when the appropriate signage and barriers are in place. Each road indicated will need to be closed once for prepatching works (as per the schedule below) and a second time for the actual surface treatment works (Surface dressing or microsurfacing) later in the year (These dates will be advertised on information boards on each site, 14 days in advance of commencement).

Every effort will be made to keep to the schedule shown below. Some minor modifications may be made to dates and duration of works, to be advised once known.

Adverse weather conditions may prevent some works being carried out on the planned dates.

Roads that are missed will be re-scheduled, as advised locally and signposted on site.

SCHEDULE

TUNBRIDGE WELLS

OLD HOUSE ROAD, FORDCOMBE - closed between B2168 Fordcombe Road and Leggs Lane.

28 - 31 January 2013 - 0830hrs to 1730hrs.

Alternative route via B2168 Fordcombe Road, The Lane and Old House Road. (And vice versa)

DIG DOG LANE, FRITTENDEN - closed between C89 Frittenden Road and C146 Hareplain Road (At the Three Chimneys Public House).

28 January to 8 February 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs

Alternative route via Hareplain Road, U1718 Biddenden Road, C89 The Street and Frittenden Road (And vice versa)

ETHNAM LANE, SANDHURST - closed for its whole length

31 January to 1 February 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs

(No alternative route as this is a no through road)

BUBHURST LANE, FRITTENDEN - closed for its whole length

4 February to 5 February 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs

(No alternative route as this is a no through road)

BABBS LANE, BENENDEN - B2086 Mounts Hill to Nineveh Lane.

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council

HIGHWAYS

18 to 22 February 2013. 0830hrs - 1730hrs

Alternative route via Coldharbour Road, Iden Green Road and B2086 Cranbrook Road (And vice versa).

FRIEZLEY LANE, GOUDHURST - closed for its whole length

25 to 28 February, 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs

(No alternative route as this is a no through road).

KNOWLE LANE, BRENCHLEY - closed between Mile Oak Road and Knowle Road.

1 to 3 March 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs.

Alternative route via Knowle Road, Crook Road, Pixot Hill and Mile Oak Road.

VAUXHALL LANE, SOUTHBOROUGH - closed between A26 London Road and Vauxhall Lane at Cottage Hospital entrance.

4 to 8 March 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs.

Alternative route via Vauxhall Lane, A2014 Pembury Road, A26 Quarry Hill Road and A26 London Road. (And vice versa).

LADY OAK LANE, GOUDHURST - A21 to Balcombes Hill.

11 - 15 March 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs.

Alternative route via Balcombes Hill, A262 West Road, Clayhill, Station Road, B2162 Lamberhurst Road, School Hill, The Broadway, Spray Hill and A21 London Road. (And vice versa).

ROGERS ROUGH ROAD, GOUDHURST - Lady Oak Lane to Church Road, Kilndown

25 to 29 March 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs.

Alternative Route via B2079 Lady Oak Lane, Bedgebury Road, Peasley Lane and Ranters Lane. (And vice versa)

PRIORS HEATH, GOUDHURST - B2079 Lady Oak Lane to Roger's Rough Road. 25 to 29 March 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs.

Alternative Route via B2079 Lady Oak Lane, Bedgebury Road, Peasley Lane and Ranters Lane. (And vice versa)

CHICKS LANE, GOUDHURST - Rogers Rough Road to Church Road,Kilndown.

25 to 29 March 2013. 0830hrs to 1730hrs.

Alternative Route via Church Road, Kilndown, Ranters Lane, Peasley Lane, B2079 Bedgebury Road and Lady Oak Lane. (And vice versa)

John Burr
Director of Highways & Transportation
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall,
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ **Dated 27th January 2013**

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council

LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

Folkestone Hythe & Romney Marsh Shepway District Council www.shepway.gov.uk

ICE CREAM RIGHTS

Sites to be licensed for 2013 season
28 March - 1 October

Quotations are invited for the rights to sell ice cream from a van/mobile kiosk at one or more of these sites:-

1. Next to the Royal Military Canal and the Hythe Cricket Club, Hythe,
2. Farthing Common, Stone Street, Monks Horton,
3. Coast Drive Car Park, Littlestone,
4. New Lade Car Park, Lydd-on-sea.

Quotations should be submitted by 12 noon on 1st March 2013

Site plans, licence conditions and methods for submitting quotations can be obtained by visiting www.shepway.gov.uk/licensing or alternatively by contacting Property Services for a quotation pack on 01303 853472.

The council does not bind itself to accept the highest, or any quotation. All quotations are to be submitted on council approved documentation.

To advertise in this section
01303 817056

MARRIAGE LICENCES

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **The Barn, 1 Lonsdale Gardens, Tunbridge Wells**

Applicant: **Philippe Sorak**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Cath Anley
Head of Libraries, Registration and Archives
Kent History and Library Centre
James Whatman Way

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **Mercure Maidstone Great Danes Hotel, Hollingbourne, Maidstone**

Applicant: **Dominic Di Cara**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Cath Anley
Head of Libraries, Registration and Archives
Kent History and Library Centre
James Whatman Way
Maidstone, ME14 1LQ

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **The Alexander Centre, 15-17 Preston Street, Faversham**

Applicant: **Susan Wilson**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the grant of an approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this notice. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Cath Anley
Head of Libraries, Registration and Archives
Kent History and Library Centre
James Whatman Way
Maidstone, ME14 1LQ

LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

Jason Bellamy trading as JB's Haulage Ltd of 34 Tupman Close, Rochester, Kent ME1 1RS is applying to change an existing license as follows

To add an operating centre to keep 4 goods vehicles and 3 trailsers at Ryarsh Business Park, Roughetts Road, Ryarsh, West Malling, Kent ME19 5LR and which applies at the operating centre at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS9 6NF

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide To Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

AUCTION SALE

6TH FEBRUARY 2013

barnard marcus

By order of Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

Site at Woolley Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN4 0LE

- freehold site (and buildings) with planning permission for a detached bungalow with parking

Guide £45,000

Please call 0208 741 8088

www.barnardmarcusauctions.co.uk

PLANNING

Planning applications

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL

Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995
Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990
Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:

CA//12/02077/FUL: 48 Middle Wall, Whitstable, CT5 1BN Construction of first floor rear extension to provide floor space and improve layout. **Applicant: Mr D Nurse** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//13/00017/FUL: The Glebe, St Mildreds Church, Church Lane, Canterbury Change of use of vacant land for use as a garden for educational purposes with associated works including potting sheds and greenhouses for use by adults with a learning disability (Sui Generis Use). **Applicant: Mr P Bell** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.

CA//13/00031/FUL: Former Wyevale Garden Centre, London Road, Upper Harbledown Residential development of 19 no. dwellings, access road, car parking, landscaping and associated infrastructure; provision of an 18 space car park for use in association with the village hall (or for use as a community tennis court); provision of other community open space; erection of Class B1(a) office buildings (single-storey). **Applicant: Mr J Whibley** Reason: Contrary to development plan and conservation area.

CA//13/00061/FUL: Millbourne, Wickham Road, Wickhambreaux, CT3 1RE Removal of tile hanging to elevations and replacement with Marley Eternit Cedral weather boarding, colour white. Replacement of all metal framed windows and side door with uPVC double glazed units. Erection of uPVC conservatory on brick dwarf walling to match existing brickwork. Solar panels to be positioned on rear roof pitch. **Applicant: Mr Vine** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//13/00069/FUL: 172-174 Mortimer Street, Herne Bay Change of use of two ground floor retail units to two self-contained one bedroom apartments. **Applicant: W H Properties** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//13/00071/FUL: 13 South Road, Herne Bay, CT6 5AR Replacement front windows. **Applicant: Mrs Willis** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//13/00088/FUL: The Vine House, Bekesbourne Hill, Bekesbourne, CT4 5ED Installation of hanging Kent Peg tiles on southwest facing gable end wall. **Applicant: Mr Mark Jenner** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.

CA//13/00089/FUL: 68 The Hill, Littlebourne, CT3 1TB Loft conversion (incorporating rooflights to front and dormer window to rear) and internal alterations including extension and change of pitch to roof. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Hughes** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.

CA//13/00091/ADV: The Prince Albert, Sea Street, Whitstable, CT5 1AN Removal of existing signage and replacement with illuminated signs **Applicant: Punch Taverns** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//13/00093/FUL: 43 Roper Road, Canterbury, CT2 7EQ Proposed single-storey rear extension and extension to rear roof slope. (Revised scheme). **Applicant: Mr S Stephens** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//13/00107/FUL: Plough Inn, London Road, Upper Harbledown, CT2 9AW Change of use of public house (Class A4) to single dwelling (Class C3), demolition of part of the toilet block and refurbishment of the main building. The construction of a sun space/conservatory. **Applicant: Mr Bungar** Reason: Conservation area.

CA//13/00108/FUL: 17 Best Lane, Canterbury, CT1 2JB External and internal alterations to house and garage and erection of replacement extension. **Applicant: Mr C Lloyd and Dr Flavia Silva** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.

CA//13/00109/ADV: 32-33 Watling Street, Canterbury, CT1 2AN Proposed fascia sign. **Applicant: Whitehead Monckton** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.

CA//13/00111/LB: 17 Best Lane, Canterbury, CT1 2JB External and internal alterations to house and garage and erection of replacement extension. **Applicant: Mr C Lloyd and Dr Flavia Silva** Reason: Work to a listed building.

CA//13/00114/FUL: 12 St Gregory's Road, Canterbury, CT1 1NT Two-storey side extension. **Applicant: Mrs Clout Hart** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.

CA//13/00115/FUL: 12 Daniels Court, Whitstable, CT5 1ET Third-floor extension to corner turret and extension to northwest elevation to provide lift to all floors. **Applicant: Mr M Sundin** Reason: Conservation area.

Any representations should be sent in writing to the Head of Planning and Regeneration, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW or e-mailed to **development.management@canterbury.gov.uk** to arrive on or before **Monday 18 February 2013.**

The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at: **www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc**

Ian Brown, Head of Planning and Regeneration
Friday 25 January 2013

THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Town and Country Planning Act
Notice of Applications

MA/12/2181/S - ROCK FARM, GIBBS HILL, NETTLESTEAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME18 5HT - Amendments to application MA/11/0550 (Rebuilding of stables to form accommodation for holiday let) being changes to the car parking arrangement and amenity space. **Reason: 1**

MA/12/2185/N - THE STABLES, GREEN HILL, OTHAM, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 8RR - Retrospective application for the change of use of land to garden land and erection of summerhouse and decking. **Reason: 1 2**

MA/12/2276/S - ROYDON FARM, PYE CORNER, ULCOMBE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1EG - Variation of conditions 1 and 2 of planning permission reference MA/03/2369 (change of use of land to a mixed use of agricultural and residential for the stationing of one mobile home and one touring caravan and utility room for gypsy family) to enable the stationing of two additional mobile homes for an extended gypsy family. **Reason: 7**

MA/12/2296/N - EARLS, 30, EARL STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1PS - Listed building consent for replacement of existing single exit door on first floor with double door and reduction in width of adjacent sash window. **Reason: 3**

MA/12/2299/N - EARLS, 30, EARL STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1PS - Replacement of existing single exit door on first floor with double door and reduction in width of adjacent sash window. **Reason: 1 2**

MA/12/2300/N - MAITLANDS FARM, WOODSIDE GREEN, LENHAM, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 2ES - Erection of an extension to a new grain store. **Reason: 1**

MA/12/2303/S - CONCORDE HOUSE, 10, LONDON ROAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME16 8QA - Change of use and works to convert the existing building to 73 residential units with associated access, parking and landscaping. **Reason: 1 2 6**

MA/12/2316/S - LAND SOUTH OF ST PETERS CHURCH, CHURCH HILL, BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA, KENT - Change of use of land from agriculture to churchyard to provide an extension to the existing churchyard to be used for interment of cremated remains, burials and a remembrance garden. **Reason: 1**

MA/12/2327/N - 5, PLANTATION LANE, BEARSTED, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 4BH - Erection of single storey side and rear extension to include garage. **Reason: 1**

MA/13/0011/S - WESTREE HOUSE, 2, WESTREE ROAD, MAIDSTONE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME16 8HB - Listed Building Consent for installation of a fire door between Studio 4 & Studio 3. **Reason: 3**

MA/13/0014/S - BARDINGLEY FARM, BABYLON LANE, HAWKENBURY, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 0EG - Erection of a timber conservatory to replace existing and installation of timber bi-fold doors to rear elevation of dwelling. **Reason: 3**

MA/13/0043/N - BROOK HOUSE, LOWER STREET, LEEDS, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1RR - Application for listed building consent to replace existing conservatory with white hardwood conservatory. **Reason: 3**

Reasons for advertisement key:
1 -Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.
2 -Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.
3 -Application is for Listed Building Consent.
6 -Application is Major Development.
7 -Application affects a Public Right of Way.

MAIDSTONE Borough Council

Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Wednesday 8.30am to 5.30pm, Thursday 8.30am to 7pm, Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **10th February 2013** quoting the application number.

Rob Jarman Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated:** 27th January 2013.

BE PART OF YOUR COMMUNITY

Advertise here

Call 01303 817056

www.kentnews.co.uk

PLANNING

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

13/00099/FUL Colt Cottage Postern Lane, Capel
- Change of use from agricultural land to residential curtilage (LB)

12/03497/LBC 27 High Street Cranbrook, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Listed Building Consent: Reinstatement of upper part of building as self-contained dwelling. Structural repairs, including chimney reconstruction and facade repairs (works already carried out) (LB)

13/00051/FUL The Find Stone Street, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Change of use to shop and offices with ancillary storage. (LB) (CA)

13/00052/LBC The Find Stone Street, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Listed Building Consent: Change of use to shop and offices with ancillary storage, new signage (LB)

12/03134/HOUSE Holmans Slip Mill Lane, Hawkhurst
- French doors to replace casement window in East elevation (LB)

12/03138/LBC Holmans Slip Mill Lane, Hawkhurst
- Listed Building Consent: French doors to replace casement window in East elevation (LB)

12/03443/HOUSE Holmans Slip Mill Lane, Hawkhurst
- Alterations to pool house to include two new windows, install two chimney flues, remove existing brick chimney. Add timber louvres on right hand bay, reconfigure left hand bay for wood storage and reduce plant room size (LB)

12/03446/LBC Holmans Slip Mill Lane, Hawkhurst
- Listed building consent - Alterations to pool house to include two new windows, install two chimney flues, remove existing brick chimney. Add timber louvres on right hand bay, reconfigure left hand bay for wood storage and reduce plant room size (LB)

13/00027/LBC Rowan Cottage Attwaters Lane, Hawkhurst
- Listed Building Consent: Replacement of one first floor single glazed timber framed window (LB)

13/00070/OUTMJ OS Plot 6447 Adjacent Dormers 12 Bayham Road, Pantiles & St Marks

- Outline (Access not reserved) - Erection of up to 45 dwellings including associated access and parking, utilities and service infrastructure, amenity space, open space and landscaping for The Fairfield Partnership (MAJOR) (DEVPLN)

13/00045/HOUSE 17 Calverley Park Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park
- Replacement of existing gates with electronically automated gates (LB) (CA)

13/00117/LBC The Malt House Queen Street, Sandhurst
- Listed Building Consent: Change in position of doors to rear elevation of garden room (LB)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

James Freeman
Head of Planning Services
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Town Hall
Royal Tunbridge Wells
TN1 1RS

Dated: 26 January 2013

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

Folkestone Hythe & Romney Marsh Shepway District Council

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the Council:

Y13/0007/SH - The Old School House The Square Elham Canterbury Kent - Listed building consent for removal of existing partition wall, erection of new partitions to form 3 ensuite bathrooms to first floor.

Y12/1099/SH - St Michaels Church Church Hill Hawkinge Folkestone Kent - Listed building consent for installation of woodburner flue.

Y13/0026/SH+ - Slaybrook Hall Sandling Road Sandling Hythe Kent - Listed Building Consent for the demolition of internal partition walls and blocking of existing opening to ground floor

Y13/0009/SH# - 1 Sycamore Gardens Dymchurch Romney Marsh Kent TN29 0LA - Erection of a ground floor canopy structure to the rear elevation.

Y12/0810/SH - Holt Lodge School Hill Bodsham Ashford Kent - Change of use from a stable block to holiday let accommodation, together with external alterations and patio area.

Y13/0027/SH - Cordova Court Sandgate Road Folkestone Kent CT20 2HQ - Felling of one Sycamore and re-pollarding of six further Sycamore trees, all situated within a conservation area

Y13/0021/SH - Walnut Tree House High Street Elham Canterbury Kent - Installation of weatherboarding to replace existing tile hanging to first floor external walls

Y12/1143/SH+ - Brockhill Park Performing Arts College Sandling Road Saltwood Hythe Kent - Erection of a single storey replacement arts facility building following demolition of an existing building.

Any representations should be made in writing to the Head of Planning, Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY or emailed to planning@shepway.gov.uk. Comments should be made in writing within 21 days from the date of publication. It should be noted that any representations received will be made available for public inspection.

Some applications can be viewed at other locations in addition to the Civic Centre, Folkestone. The applications are marked as follows:

- The One Stop Shop, Magpies, Church Approach, New Romney

+ - Hythe Town Council Offices, Stade Street, Hythe

Applications can be viewed and comments made online at http://searchplanapps.shepway.gov.uk/online-applications/.

The applications marked (*) do not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated.

C Lewis, Head of Planning
Shepway District Council

BE PART OF YOUR COMMUNITY

Advertise here
Call 01303 817056
www.kentnews.co.uk

Swale Borough Council

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Swale Borough Council as Local Planning Authority has received the following applications which are being advertised to ascertain the views of persons living near the sites and other interested parties. The proposed developments relate to one or more of the following:

1. The site of the application is within/affecting a designated Conservation Area (Section 73) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
2. The proposed development may affect the Listed Building or it's setting.
3. The application is for a Major Development.
7. This application affects trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order.

REPRESENTATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 11 FEBRUARY 2013.

SW/12/1019:
Construction of Solar Farm comprising up to 7000 solar panels, plus associated equipment, cabling & works - New Kaine Farm, Holywell Lane, UPCHURCH; **REASON 3**

SW/12/1596:
Construction of 5 x 4 bedroom detached dwellings and associated vehicle parking plus realignment of Rook Lane including new access to mast and new section of roadway to waterworks - Land at Rook Lane, BOBBING; **REASON 7**

SW/13/0002:
Proposed erection of a single detached 4 bed house and detached garage, on land to the side of an existing dwelling - Land adjacent Glazedale, Bannister Hill, BORDEN; **REASON 1**

SW/13/0005:
Proposed single storey rear extension - 44 Spillett Close, FAVERSHAM; **REASON 1**

SW/13/0008:
Removal of two prefabricated buildings, to be replaced by new weatherboarded pavilion with slate roof, new small tennis practice courts and rebound fence - Faversham Tennis Club, Faversham Recreation Ground, Park Road, FAVERSHAM; **REASON 1**

SW/13/0012:
Proposed new front entrance door in timber. To replace existing plate glass - 20 East Street, FAVERSHAM; **REASON 1**

SW/13/0014:
New first floor windows to lounge of existing residential Oast house - Vine Farm Oast, Stockers Hill, BOUGHTON, **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/13/0015:
Conversion and enlargement of existing farm building to two storey showroom and storage - Farm Building, Vine Farm, Stockers Hill, BOUGHTON; **REASON 2**

SW/13/0016:
Installation of stainless steel flue, painted black - Sutton Barn, Sutton Baron Road, BORDEN; **REASON 2**

SW/13/0031:
Increasing the capacity of the existing church car park from 9 to 22 spaces - Land to North East of Kettle Hill Road, EASTLING; **REASONS 1 & 2**

TN/13/0007:
Installation of one broadband cabinet within pavement to front of store - O/s Iceland Foods PLC, Unit 3, 90-102 High Street, SHEERNESS; **REASONS 1 & 2**

Particulars of the proposal(s) can be obtained from Planning Services, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, where copies of the applications and all documents submitted with them may be inspected during office hours; any representations should be made in writing to this address.

James Freeman
Head of Planning

To advertise in this section
01303 817056

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010 AND UNDER THE PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

KCC/SE/0439/2012 - Proposed development at Otford Primary School, High Street, Otford, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN14 5PG

KCC Property Group is applying to the Kent County Council Planning Applications Group for planning permission for the demolition of the existing swimming pool building and erection of a new building to accommodate three additional classrooms with associated welfare facilities and an extension to the existing school hall. The proposed development adjoins a Conservation Area and may affect its character and/or appearance.

You may view this application at Sevenoaks District Council, Council Offices, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 1HG.

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

ACCOMPANIED BY AN ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

KCC/SH/0381/2011 - Proposed development at Dungeness Borrow Pit, Dungeness, Romney Marsh, Kent, TN29 9NA

EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Ltd and the Environment Agency has submitted further environmental information under regulation (22) of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011 in support of application reference KCC/SH/0381/2011 for shingle recycling for the purpose of flood defence. The original application was accompanied by an environmental statement. The proposed development is within the Dungeness Conservation Area and is likely to affect its character and/or appearance. The proposed development also affects a public right of way.

Members of the public may obtain copies of the original environmental statement and further information submitted from Halcrow Group, Burderop Park, Swindon, SN4 0QD Tel: 01793 816360 so long as stocks last, at a reasonable charge.

You may view this application at Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY or at the One Stop Service Lydd, Guildhall, Lydd, Kent, TN29 9AJ.

Alternatively, details of all applications can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/viewapplications or at our offices in Maidstone at the address below during all reasonable office hours.

We accept comments online via our website, by email to planning.applications@kent.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX within 21 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons and may include publishing on the District Council website.

Sharon Thompson
Head of Planning Applications Group
Kent County Council
Dated: 27th January 2013

Kent County Council

Do not gamble on people seeing your public notices, call the Kent Public Notice team on

01303 817056

Whatever job you are looking for we will help you find it

- Upload your CV and let recruiters find you
- Easy online Job search and application tools
- Register to receive the latest jobs delivered to your inbox

jobs24.co.uk Incorporating JobsforKent.co.uk
It's jobs for Kent

HIGHWAYS – in the city of

CANTERBURY

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (CANTERBURY)(TRAFFIC REGULATION AND STREET PARKING PLACES)(AMENDMENT NO 1) ORDER 2013

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL propose to make the above Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order will be to amend the Kent County Council (Canterbury) (Traffic Regulation and Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2012 by varying existing charges relating to parking in Canterbury.

Increase to charges for on-street pay and display parking:

Increase hourly charge from £1 to £1.10

Increase to charges for on-street permits:

Canterbury Residents' On-Street Permits – City Centre zone – increase from £125 to £138

Canterbury Residents' On-Street Permits – 2 hour zone – increase from £75 to £83

Canterbury Residents' On-Street Permits – 4 hour zone – increase from £55 to £60

Canterbury On-Street Business Users' Permits – increase from £355 to £390

Canterbury Visitors' Permits – increase from £3.50 to £4

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (HERNE BAY)(TRAFFIC REGULATION AND STREET PARKING PLACES)(AMENDMENT NO 1) ORDER 2013

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL propose to make the above Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order will be to amend the Kent County Council (Herne Bay) (Traffic Regulation and Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2012 by varying existing charges relating to parking in Herne Bay.

Increase to charges for on-street pay and display parking in Central Parade:

Increase hourly charge from 60p to 70p.

Increase to charges for on-street permits:

Herne Bay Residents' On-Street Permits – increase from £50 to £55

Herne Bay Market Traders' Permits – increase from £32 to £35

Herne Bay Business Users' Permits – increase from £120 to £132

Herne Bay Visitors' Permits – increase from £1.60 to £1.80

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (WHITSTABLE)(TRAFFIC REGULATION AND STREET PARKING PLACES)(AMENDMENT NO 1) ORDER 2013

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL propose to make the above Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order will be to amend the Kent County Council (Whitstable) (Traffic Regulation and Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2012 by varying existing charges relating to parking in Whitstable.

Increase to charges for on-street pay and display parking in Beach Walk:

Up to 30 minutes – increase from 30p to 40p

30 minutes to 1 hour – increase from 60p to 70p

1 hour to 4 hours – increase from £2.40 to £2.80

Increase to charges for on-street permits:

Whitstable Residents' On-Street Permits – increase from £50 to £55

Whitstable Visitors' Permits – increase from £1.60 to £1.80

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (CANTERBURY RURAL PARISHES) (TRAFFIC REGULATION AND STREET PARKING PLACES)(AMENDMENT NO 1) ORDER 2013

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL propose to make the above Order under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The effect of the Order will be to amend the Kent County Council (Canterbury Rural Parishes) (Traffic Regulation and Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2012 by varying existing charges relating to parking in Sturry.

Increase to charges for on-street permits:

Sturry Residents' On-Street Permits – increase from £55 to £60

Full details are contained in the draft orders which, together with a statement of the council's reasons for proposing to make the orders and a copy of any orders which will be amended by the proposed orders, may be examined at the Canterbury City Council Offices in Military Road, Canterbury or William Street, Herne Bay during normal office hours.

If you wish to object to the proposed orders you should write, stating the grounds for your objection, to the Transportation Manager, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury, CT1 1YW. Alternatively you may email your response to **transportation@canterbury.gov.uk**. Your submission must be received by noon on **Friday 15 February**.

If you have any questions concerning the proposed orders or require further information please email the city council's Transportation Team or telephone 01227 862 544 Monday to Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm.

This Notice is published on behalf of Kent County Council, Highways and Transportation, Enterprise and Environment, County Hall, Maidstone, ME14 2XQ.

Kent Highway Services

BE PART OF YOUR COMMUNITY

Advertise here

Call 01303 817056

www.kentnews.co.uk

Turn your photos into a beautifully bound PhotoBook

Get 20% off all PhotoBook orders

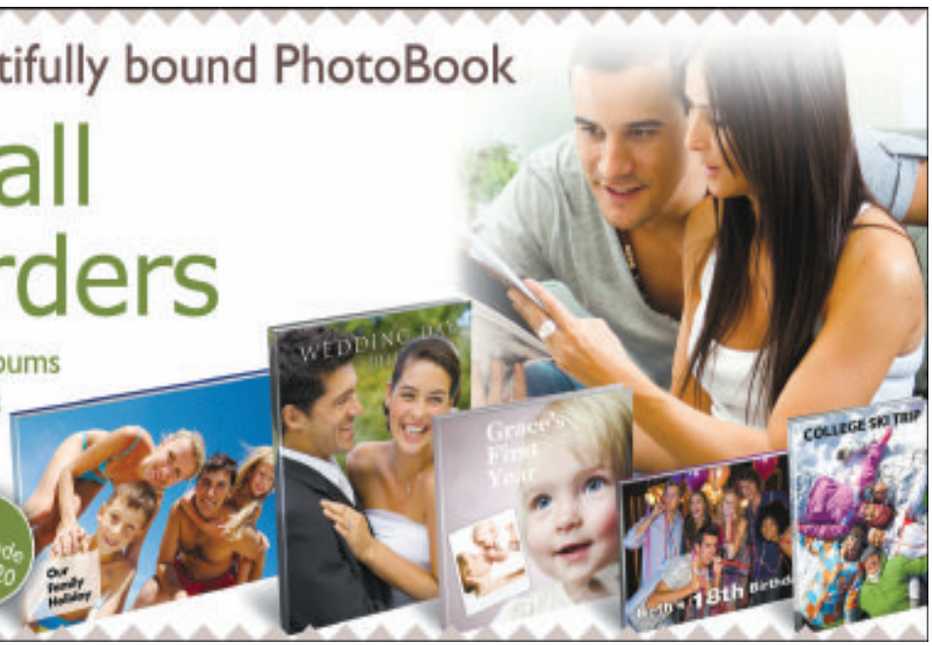
From holiday snaps, to baby photos, wedding albums to birthdays, cherish all your precious moments by creating your own PhotoBook today!

yourPhotoBooks.co.uk

CAPTURE A MOMENT

Visit www.yourphotobooks.co.uk to find out how to use and make your own PhotoBook

Use code ARCH20



Kent BRIDE Magazine is on sale NOW!

Over £5,000 of prizes to be won

Plus

• Real-life weddings • Venues • Bridal stores • Photographers • Florists • Wedding cars • Groom dress hire • Wedding cakes **and so much more.**

Kent BRIDE is on sale now at all good retail outlets
or call **01303 817072** to order for home delivery.
You can order your copy online by visiting: **www.buyamag.co.uk/kentbride**

ARCHANT KOS MEDIA

CRICKET

Hurt of T20 final loss will spur us on to defend title, says Greenway

England's women cricketers begin the defence of their World Cup title in India this week. **Greg Miles** learns that four Kent ladies will play a big part.

ENGLAND'S cricket team will be looking to continue their near-domination of the women's game by defending their World Cup crown in India this week.

It's been a remarkable decade for the women's game as the honours have stacked up under the stewardship of Kent and England captain Charlotte Edwards.

That international success has also been copied domestically, with Kent riding high in the county championships and boasting six England regulars in their ranks.

Four of those – Edwards, Tammy Beaumont, Laura Marsh and Lydia Greenway – are a part of the squad in the subcontinent.

England claimed the title with a nerve-racking four-wicket win over New Zealand four years ago when Greenway was just 23.

Now, at 27, she's one of the more senior members of the side, having been a part of that victory while also tasting disappointment in the four-run T20 World Cup final defeat to Australia in October.

The batswoman from Orpington is hoping the pain of that loss will give England the edge in the 50-over format of the game this time around.

"I think it's still quite a fresh disappointment, so to have another big tournament come round quickly is good for us," she said. "Even though it's a different format of the game, it can give us that extra drive. We don't really want to dwell on it too much."

While Greenway concedes they might be favourites, she is ignoring the fact that they're defending champions, acknowledging there's more of a level playing field in the sport these days.

"Obviously, having won it in the past, it gives us a reassurance that we know what we're doing. But that was a long time ago," she said.

"We want to make sure we play one game at a time and not get ahead of ourselves – we are good at doing that – and hopefully things can take care of themselves.

"Things have been brought closer together in terms of skill levels in international cricket. We might be favourites, but we won't focus on that."

Greenway admits the Kent link should prove beneficial on the international stage.

"As a team we're in a good place," she said. "We have got more senior players now. The amount of caps we have got is quite a high number. We have a good balance.

"World Cups are what you train for. It's the pinnacle of our sport. We want to go out and make the most of the opportunity."

■ **England Women's games will be broadcast on BBC Radio, and 10 games from across the competition, including the final, will be shown live on Sky Sports.**

GROUP A FIXTURES

Saturday, February 2
England v Sri Lanka – Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai. 3.30am start.
Monday, February 4
India v England – Middle Income Group Ground, Bandra, Mumbai. 3.30am start.
Wednesday, February 6
England v West Indies – Brabourne Stadium, Mumbai. 9am start.

Final scheduled for Sunday, February 17, 9am start. (GMT start times)

Pictures: GETTY

LEGEND: Kent and England captain Charlotte Edwards (above) and Lydia Greenway (left) are key members of England's World Cup squad

FACT FILE ON...

Name: Tamsin Beaumont
Born: March 11, 1991, Dover
Position: Batting wicketkeeper
England ODI debut: v West Indies, November 2009. 14 not out.
High score: Kent v Surrey – 136

FOR Tammy Beaumont the World Cup represents a new chapter in her flourishing career.

The 21-year-old, who first picked up a bat at Sandwich Cricket Club, has quickly established herself in Kent's successful side, opening the batting with Charlotte Edwards. However, she's had to be patient in the national side, with Sarah Taylor keeping her on the sidelines.

Beaumont – picked for the 2009 World Cup win, but not the T20 squad in October – has seen big changes during her short time in the game.

"I think it's definitely got a lot bigger since I started playing," she said.

"The number of women clubs now is still growing and it's brilliant. It's down to the success of the girls from the 2009 winning squad.

"It was in Australia, so I was staying up late to watch the first 15 overs of it and then recording it and watching the rest in the morning."

FOOTBALL

Darts lose frontman Crawford to Barnet

DARTFORD have lost star striker Harry Crawford to League Two side Barnet.

The young striker signed at the Princes Park Stadium in the summer following his release by Southend United, going on to score 12 goals in 24 appearances.

Barnet, managed by Dutch legend Edgar Davids, lodged a seven-day approach for the frontman last week and signed him on a three-year contract on Thursday.

A statement from Dartford said: "When Harry joined DFC he stressed he wanted to return to full-time football as soon as possible.

"As advised from his agent he did not want to commit to a contract.

"We would like to thank Harry for his time here at DFC and wish him the best of luck."

SPEEDWAY

Mason confirmed as Kent Kings captain

THE first details have been revealed about the county's new speedway team based in Sittingbourne.

The team, who will be based at Sittingbourne's greyhound stadium, Central Park, will be known as the Kent Kings. They have already signed up their team captain for the National League season, which starts in May.

Former Conference League champion David Mason will lead the team, which is expected to feature a number of young riders.

The Kings will be managed by John Sampford, who moves from the Rye House Rockets.

Race nights will be on Mondays, with the first meeting scheduled for Bank Holiday Monday, May 6.

■ **Visit www.kentkings.com for information**

FOOTBALL

Essam leaves Gills for League One challenge

CONNOR Essam has joined Crawley Town on a free transfer.

The 20-year-old defender has signed a two-and-a-half-year contract at the League One club after being made available for transfer by Gillingham boss Martin Allen.

"Things haven't worked out for me at Gillingham this season, but I feel I have a lot to offer and Crawley is getting a reputation for developing young players. I think I can improve here and hopefully help the boys push on towards the play-offs," he said.

Essam made 18 appearances at the club after making his debut against Southend United last February. He also had loan spells at Dover Athletic, Dartford, Bishops Stortford and Luton Town.

CRICKET

Northeast chosen for MCC tour with greats

KENT'S Sam Northeast has been named in the MCC squad to play in the UAE in March.

He will represent the MCC in a match against county champions Warwickshire at the Zayed International Cricket Stadium in Abu Dhabi from Sunday to Wednesday, March 24-27.

Hampshire's Jimmy Adams and Northeast will be making their debuts for the club and be joined at the top of the MCC batting order by Middlesex and former Kent favourite Joe Denly and Indian legend Rahul Dravid.

Before the Champion County match, MCC will play against Sussex and Warwickshire in the Emirates Airline Twenty20 Trophy on Thursday and Friday, March 21-22, at Dubai's Sevens Stadium. South African and Durham player Dale Benkenstein will captain the side.

FOOTBALL

Gills aiming to break new ground by joining Women's Super League

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

GILLINGHAM Ladies Football Club is on the verge of taking a monumental step forward, with a new elite league being formed in the women's game.

The Gills are bidding to become one of 12 teams in the new two-tier Women's Super League (WSL). The league is currently only eight teams strong, with each side being given a licence on application to play in it.

But as part of a major shake-up and investment in the women's game, the elite league has been created, with interested clubs encouraged to apply by the deadline in March.

The Gills are hoping to compete in WSL Two when it starts in 2014, which is a big step up from the Women's Premier League Southern Division where they currently ply their trade.

It would mean more sponsorship opportunities, increased exposure through televised fixtures and weekly highlights being shown on ESPN for the side, which is independent from the men's team.

It's a far cry from when chairman Martin Andrews started five years ago.

He went from managing a men's Sunday league team to being in the dugout for the Gills.

However, six months later he realised the potential the club had and so took over as chairman in a bid to take the club forward.

It started as a battle to change perceptions.

"I was bored at home and my wife saw that Gillingham Ladies wanted a manager and she pushed me into it," he said.

"Those that have never been to a [ladies] game quickly have their perceptions changed. Everyone thinks women's football is about big butch lesbians who can't kick and do it for fun.

"But when they see it they realise they are athletes and respect all the hard work and dedication they put in. There's still a lot of work to do, but if you get people here once they get hooked."

The running costs will also change if their bid is successful.

A League Two team would cost about £75,000 a year to run, with £30,000 of that coming from the FA. However sponsorhip, which the club has found hard to come by, is needed.

"We could have bid to go for the Super League One, but we have to be realistic," said Andrews.

Picture: JULIAN HART

MOVING ON UP? Gillingham Ladies are hoping for induction to the new elite league

Attendance boost

ONE of the huge benefits of joining the Super League is the fact it runs throughout the summer.

Currently, Gillingham Ladies play on Sundays at 2pm in the same season as the men. That limits the number of fans they get as most girls' and ladies' grassroots clubs train or play on Sundays.

The Super League runs from May to October, meaning there is a whole new audience open to their fixtures.

They would need average gates of 250 to be financially viable in their first year.

Chairman Martin Andrews is confident that will be met.

They average gates of 80 but have got more than 300 through the door in recent seasons in fixtures against Chelsea Ladies and Arsenal Ladies.

"There are a lot of teams that have been around longer than we have. It would cost around £150,000 a year to be a League One side.

"At the moment it costs around £25,000 to £30,000 a year, so I think we can quite comfortably make those figures.

"I have written 300 or 400 emails and letters to people asking for as little as £25, and I've not heard from anyone. The sponsorship has always come from people that know us.

"Our main sponsor, the Marine Travel Company, has just given us a two-year deal and will give us another deal should we get into the Super League."

One of the key points of their bid is geography. The only girls centre of excellence in the county is run by Gillingham men's side. The other nearest one is at Millwall.

They currently play at Chatham Town's Sports Ground, having previously been at Lordswood where they moved from in order to fulfil ground-grading requirements for their new league following promotion.

■ **For more information about the club, visit www.clubwebsite.co.uk/gillinghamladies.**

HERO: Cody McDonald made himself a favourite

FOOTBALL

Drawn-out return of fans' favourite is over as McDonald seals season loan

CODY McDonald's long-awaited return to Gillingham has been completed this week.

Manager Martin Allen identified the need for an additional striker long before the transfer window opened at the start of the month, sending the rumour mill into overdrive about a return for the Gills fans' favourite.

The 26-year-old has found himself out of favour at League One side Coventry City under new manager Mark Robins, who took over earlier this season.

McDonald made just 35 appearances for the Sky Blues, scoring six goals since signing at the Ricoh Arena in the summer of 2011.

He started his career at Ryman One North side Witham Town, where his goalscoring exploits were spotted by Dartford.

He scored 19 goals in 20 games for the Darts in his four-month stay and moved to Norwich in January 2009. He signed on a season-long loan for the Gills as part of the deal that took Simeon Jackson to Carrow Road in the summer of 2010.

That season he scored 25 goals in 41 games as the Gills finished eighth in League Two.

His performances saw him pick up players' player of the year, sponsor's player of the year and goal of the season awards.

At the end of that season he was sold by Norwich, where he had played just 24 times, scoring four goals, to Coventry, where he has struggled to cement his place in the starting XI.

He linked up with his new team-mates on Tuesday in a training session at Priestfield and signed a loan deal until the end of the season.

Gills team of the Century

This season marks the 100th anniversary of the Gills being known as Gillingham, having originally being founded as New Brompton. We are celebrating those we think deserve a place in the team of the century.

STEVE BRUCE

DOB: December 31, 1960
Gills stats: 205 appearances, 29 goals
Clubs: Gillingham, Norwich, Man Utd, Birmingham City, Sheffield United

STEVE Bruce was a promising schoolboy footballer but was rejected by several professional clubs as a youngster – until her earned his big break at Priestfield.

He was about to start work as an apprentice plumber at a dockyard when he was offered a trial along with Peter Beardsley, who he played with at the famous Wallsend Boys club in north-east England.

Gills manager Gerry Summers spotted him at an international youth tournament playing for Wallsend and offered Bruce, who was playing as a midfielder at the time, a chance.

He was given an apprenticeship and moulded into a centre back under the guidance of Gillingham's legendary youth coach Bill 'Buster' Collins.

Bruce spent his first season in 1978/79 in the club's reserves, and remarkably finished as the top goalscorer with 18 to his name.

In January 1979, he was selected for England's youth team and went on to gain eight caps, playing in the 1980 European under-18 championship.

He was almost given his debut at the end of the 1978/79 season, but Summers decided against it at the last minute with the club chasing promotion from the Third Division.

But Bruce made his senior bow the following season, on August 11, in a League Cup tie against Luton Town.

It was a debut season to remember as he won the player of the year award.

He was later twice voted into the PFA's Third Division team of the year.

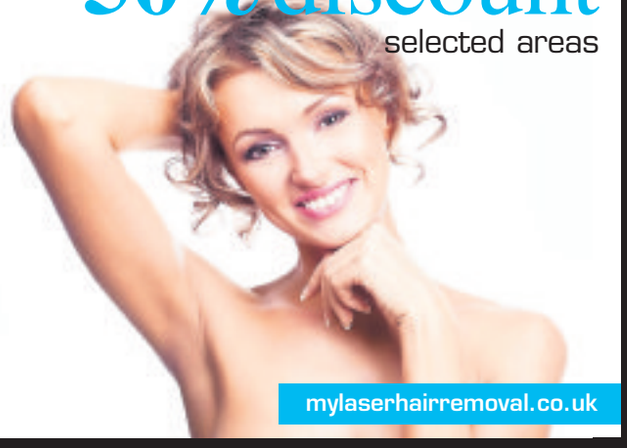
He eventually got his big move to Division One side Norwich City in August 1984 for a fee of about £130,000.

■ **So, do you agree?** Send in your opinions on our choice or who you think would have been a better option. Email **greg.miles@archant.co.uk** or write to **Sport, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth TN25 6SR**

BEAUTONICS
LASER & AESTHETICS

LASER HAIR REMOVAL

50% discount
selected areas



mylaserhairremoval.co.uk

LASER TATTOO REMOVAL

FREE
Consultation

lasertattooremoval.co.uk

formostar.co.uk

FORMOSTAR

£20 trial

Burn up to 1200 calories in 50 mins

TEETH WHITENING

offer **£99**
normally £289

laserwhite.co.uk

Skintags from **£49**

Warts/ Verruca from **£79**

SKIN BLEMISHES

SKIN TREATMENTS

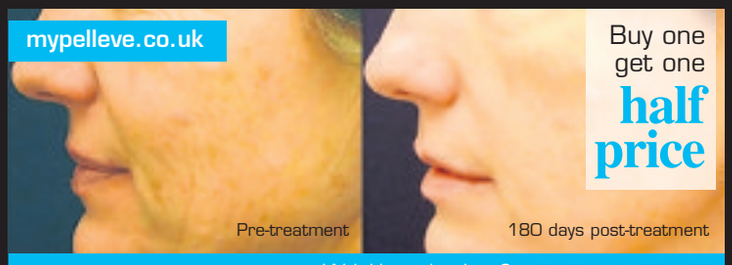
myclearskin.co.uk

Active Acne full face **£49**

Acne Scars from **£99**

Laser skin resurfacing for pigment issues, skin texture, open pores wrinkles & fine lines from **£99**

mypelleve.co.uk



Buy one get one **half price**

Wrinkle reduction & skin tightening system **PELLEVE**

Celebrating 10 years

47B HIGH STREET, RAINHAM KENT ME8 7HS **01634 362575**

OPENING TIMES: Mon-Fri 9am-8pm, Sat 10am-5.30pm, Sun 12noon -4pm